



**Connecticut Association of Assessing Officers, Inc.**  
**Legislative Committee**

**David M. Dietsch, CCMA II**  
**John Chaponis, CCMA II**

***Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 5593 AAC THE REAPPLICATION  
PROCEDURE FOR ELDERLY PROPERTY TAX RELIEF***

Dear Sen. Fonfara, Rep. Berger, and members of the Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committee:

The Connecticut Association of Assessing Officers ask for your support of HB 5593 An Act Concerning the Reapplication Procedure for Elderly Property Tax Relief.

This bill is technical in nature and has absolutely no down side. Approving these amendments creates the following:

- **Extending the date Elderly submit their claim application by 30 days**
- **Extending the date Assessor must mail certified reminder to claimant**
- **Allows the Assessor to send reminder via certificate of mailing (rather than certified)**

Since the Elderly Tax Relief is based on the applicants' income, applicants are required to provide their IRS Income Tax Return which is not due with the IRS until April 15th. It makes little sense to require Elderly Applicants to file a claim with the Assessor prior to April 15th because their IRS tax return may not exist yet.

It makes even less sense to require the Assessor to send a late notice reminder, via certified mail, prior to April 15th.

A "certificate of mailing" costs \$1.35 versus certified mail at \$8.60. Requiring Assessors to send a late notice reminding applicants to file, via a "certificate of mailing", is an excellent cost savings measure while accomplishing the same goal of proving the reminder notice was actually sent to the claimant.

C.A.A.O. would like to thank the Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committee for raising HB 5593 and hope these technical changes can be implemented.

Respectfully,

Legislative Chairman, Connecticut Association of Assessing Officers  
David Dietsch, CCMA II, Assessor, City of Waterbury  
John Chaponis, CCMA II, Assessor, Town of Colchester