



Connecticut Chapter
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Housing Committee Public Hearing, March 1, 2016

Testimony In Support of HB 5399, An Act Concerning State Reimbursement for Tax Abatements and Payments in Lieu of Taxes.

Submitted by John Rumberger, Vice President of Housing and Legislation On behalf of the membership of Conn-NAHRO

Conn-NAHRO is the Connecticut chapter of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials; its membership is comprised of Public Housing Authorities and other individuals and organizations involved in affordable housing.

Co-Chairpersons Senator Winfield and Representative Butler and members of the Housing Committee. My name is John Rumberger; I am the Vice President of Housing and Legislation for CONN-NAHRO and also the Facilities Manager of the Middletown Housing Authority. We at CONN-NAHRO are writing to fully support HB 5399 AN ACT CONCERNING STATE REIMBURSEMENT FOR TAX ABATEMENTS AND PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES. The Elimination of PILOT funding for State of Connecticut Moderate Rental Public Housing Properties would put the burden upon the residents of these developments to pay the PILOT payment to the Towns.

There are approximately 8,000 low-income families residing in 31 municipalities across the state including Bristol, Danbury, East Hartford, Enfield, Greenwich, Hartford, Mansfield, Meriden, Middletown, New Haven, Bridgeport, New London, Norwalk, Norwich, Seymour, Sharon, Stamford, Stratford, Westport, Wethersfield, Willimantic and other cities and towns that will be subjected to higher rental payments without restoration of this program. If the PILOT funding is not restored, the Housing Authorities will be forced to increase the base rents on the tenants which will result in rent increases of over \$200 to \$300 per month on families. Unfortunately we are punishing the very municipalities who deliver much needed affordable housing in our state and the residents this housing was intended to serve. This funding has been in place for nearly 40 years and has resulted in allowing us to deliver on our mission of providing "Safe, Decent and Affordable Housing".

On behalf of our member agencies and more importantly the residents of these properties, we request that you to pass HB 5399.

Thank you for taking the time to read this testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

John Rumberger