



**Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, Inc.**

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**Testimony  
submitted to the  
Planning and Development Committee  
February 19, 2016**

**HB 5175 AN ACT CONCERNING LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGETS**

The Connecticut Association of Boards of Education is opposed to HB 5175, An Act Concerning Local Board of Education Budgets. Section 1 of the bill creates an unnecessary new mandate, as board of education budgets are already included in the municipal audit. Requiring a separate audit by the board of education will only result in increased costs.

Section 2 of the bill would allow a board of finance to “increase, decrease or eliminate any non-educational expense” in the board of education budget. This provision would restrict the ability of boards of education to fulfill their statutory responsibilities. It also opens the door for increased conflict at the local level, as there would be ongoing disputes over the definition of “non-educational” expense.

We urge you to reject HB 5175.