# State of Connecticut

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

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**MEMBER**
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**Testimony**

**HB 5179 AN ACT AUTHORIZING HISTORIC PROPERTIES COMMISSIONS TO CHARGE REASONABLE FEES FOR THE PROCESSING OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS APPLICATIONS.**
**Planning & Development Committee**
**February 19, 2016**

Good Morning Senator Osten, Representative Miller and esteemed members of the Planning and Development Committee. I am here today to speak in favor of HB 5179, an Act Authorizing Historic Properties Commissions to Charge Reasonable Fees for the Processing of Certificate of Appropriateness Applications. This legislation will allow towns to recoup costs associated with processing certificate of appropriateness applications in the same fashion that they would for planning or zoning applications.

One of the towns I represent is Groton which encompasses a rather unusual conglomerate of governments that have individual planning, zoning, and historic district commission responsibilities. At this time the four historic district commissions are unable to charge a reasonable fee to cover costs such as mail, advertising, employee time, and legal expenses while their land use counterparts in planning and zoning can.

In the case of the Town of Groton planning department, they process approximately 50 applications yearly across the three historic district commissions they are responsible for. The City of Groton has its own land use department and takes responsibility for one additional historic district commission. The current fee schedule for the Town of Groton is attached and you will see that the highest fee is $430. It is anticipated that fees for an historic district application would be comparable and not exceed that amount.

In closing I would simply concur with the Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association that this bill is necessary for the effective administration of historic districts.

Thank you for your time today.

Revised 9/24/10

# TOWN OF GROTON PLANNING DEPARTMENT
# LAND USE APPLICATION FEE SCHEDULE

(All fees include a $60.00 State Land Use Fee where applicable)

## SUBDIVISION OR RESUBDIVISION

| | |
|---|---|
| Base Fee | $430 |
| 1 - 4 lots | $225 per lot, plus base fee |
| 5-49 lots | $150 per lot, plus base fee |
| 50 lots or over | $125 per lot, plus base fee |
| Subdivision modification | $280 |

## SITE PLAN

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Site Plan modification | $180 | |
| Building size of 25,000 square feet or less | $180 | |
| Building size of 25,000 - 100,000 square feet | | $280 |
| Building size over 100,000 square feet | $380 | |

## ADMINISTRATIVE SITE PLAN

$50

## INLAND WETLANDS

| | Minor | Major |
|---|---|---|
| 1 lot/1 - 2 dwelling units | $180 | $430 |
| 2 or more lots/3 or more dwelling units | $180 | $430 |
| 1 lot/1 commercial or industrial building | $180 | $430 |
| Permit amendment or modification | $180 | $430 |
| Regulation or map amendment | | $430 |
| Permitted or non-regulated activity | | No charge |

## COASTAL SITE PLAN REVIEW

| | |
|---|---|
| Non-Exempt Activities | $180 |
| Combined with Subdivision, Variance, Site Plan, or Special Permit | $105 |

## SPECIAL PERMIT

$430

## ZONING AND SUBDIVISION AMENDMENT REVIEW

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Regulation Amendment | $430 | |
| Map Change | | $430 |

## VARIANCE/APPEAL

$430

## CERTIFICATE OF LOCATION

$180

## ZONING COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION

$25