



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 7, 2016

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 96% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

HB 5554, "An Act Concerning Regional Education"

CCM **has concerns** with this bill.

This bill would, among other things, require the Department of Administrative Services review projected enrollment figures included in grant applications for school building projects and conduct annual assessments of regional school capacity.

CCM encourages regional education efficiencies as a means for towns and cities to provide all students with access to high quality educational services. However, we believe it is important that municipal officials and boards of education are involved in identifying and forming these efficiencies. It is unclear how the newly mandated assessments could impact funding awards for school building projects and regional consolidation.

CCM requests that the Committee ***amend this bill to add language clarifying how these assessments will be impact regional consolidation efforts and the awarding of grants for school construction projects.***

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If you have any questions, please contact Daniel C. Giungi, Senior Legislative Associate for CCM, at dgiungi@ccm-ct.org or (203) 498-3023.