



***GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION &
ELECTIONS COMMITTEE***
February 22, 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.

SB 100 An Act Concerning Eligibility for Unemployment Compensation Benefits

The bill would change the unemployment threshold, from \$500 to \$2,000 that would be charged directly to the employer for the cost of the unemployment benefits. Currently, the cost of the unemployment benefits for an employee that makes \$500 or less is spread amongst all employers in the unemployment pool. This proposal would increase that threshold to \$2,000.

While the bill would not address the rising cost of unemployment, **CCM supports the SB 100** as a way to spread the cost burden through all employers, including businesses and municipalities. This is a thoughtful approach that would not impose any additional cost or burden on the State or those employees receiving unemployment compensation. This would ensure that any one businesses or municipality would not be burdened with sudden unemployment costs, but share amongst all others.

CCM acknowledges that there may be drafting changes necessary in order to achieve its intended goal, and hope to work with the proponents and other advocates to ensure the bill is able to help employers throughout the State.

CCM asks the Committee to *amend and favorable report* the SB 100.

★★★★

If you have any questions, please contact Mike Muszynski, Advocacy Manager of CCM at mmuszynski@ccm-ct.org or (203) 500-7556.