



Making Great Communities Happen

Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association

Testimony regarding H.B. 5603, AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY

CCAPA opposes this bill. The proposed bill would amend Section 8-23 of the general statutes to add new required considerations in the preparation of municipal and regional Plans of Conservation and Development (POCD) concerning the “application and use of technology to enhance efficiencies, foster collaboration, increase transparency and access to information and reduce costs.” This proposal fundamentally misunderstands the purpose and function of Section 8-23 and municipal and regional Plans of Conservation & Development. A POCD is a community’s vision and blueprint for land use and the management of the geography, the environment, and the population that occupies that space.

While seeking municipal or regional efficiencies, increasing the use of technology, and finding cost savings may all be noble and worthwhile goals and appropriate tasks for either local or regional governments, the use of Section 8-23 or the mechanism of the POCD is simply not appropriate. An alternative statutory path is strongly recommended

WHO WE ARE

The Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association (CCAPA) has over 420 members who are governmental and consulting planners, land use attorneys, citizen planners, and other professionals engaged in planning and managing land use, economic development, housing, transportation, and conservation for local, regional, and State governments, private businesses and other entities. CCAPA has long been committed to assisting the legislature and State agencies with developing and furthering responsible growth management principles. The American Planning Association is an independent, not-for-profit, national educational organization that provides leadership in the development of vital communities.

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