



## *TRANSPORTATION*

February 15, 2017

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 263**      *"An Act Requiring Municipal Approval of Changes to Rail Service"*

CCM opposes SB 263.

SB 263 would prohibit any State grant, loan or other financial assistance from the state shall approved to change commuter rail services in the state unless an impacted municipality conduct a referendum to approve the proposed change. The requirement to hold a referendum for any change in rail service would be onerous and costly for towns and cities to comply with. Additionally, it would impose an unfunded mandate on towns and cities and further strain already hard pressed local budgets.

CCM urges the Committee to take no action on SB 263.

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If you have any questions, please contact Randy Collins, Advocacy Manager of CCM at [rcollins@ccm-ct.org](mailto:rcollins@ccm-ct.org) or (860) 707-6446.