



Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, Inc.

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**Testimony
submitted to the
Insurance and Real Estate Committee
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**SB 542 AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT SPECIAL EDUCATION PREDICTABLE COST
COOPERATIVE.**

While the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education supports efforts to make the cost to provide special education more predictable for local and regional boards of education, SB 542, An Act Establishing the Connecticut Special Education Predictable Cost Cooperative, requires a much more level of detail before a determination can be made as to its effectiveness in reaching the intended goal. While stability of cost within a single budget year is important, it is equally important that boards of education have some protection from widely fluctuating special education cost from year to year. If this cooperative is run in a manner similar to an insurance pool, the “premium” a district pays in the year following a catastrophic level of cost is likely to have a serious impact in that budget year.

We look forward further discussions on the specifics of how this cooperative would operate and the level of state fiscal support that would be available.

We appreciate your attention to this issue.