



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

March 16, 2018

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 338 "An Act Concerning the Use of Community Investment Account Funds for Combating Invasive Species."

CCM **opposes SB 338.**

This proposal would dilute funds dedicated to open space preservation within the Community Investment Account (CIA) by providing grants to lake authorities for the control of invasive species.

CCM understands the underlying intent of the bill, however, further dilution of the CIA undermines its effective support of, among other things, the preservation of open space. We would encourage the Committee to find other streams of funding to assist lake authorities in combating invasive plant and animal species.

CCM urges the Committee to take no action on SB 338.

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If you have any questions, please contact Donna Hamzy, Advocacy Manager of CCM at dhamzy@ccm-ct.org or (203) 843-0705.