



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

March 14, 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 339 "An Act Extending the Prohibition on Municipal Ordinances Concerning Invasive Plants."

CCM concerns with SB 339.

SB 339 would renew the prohibition on municipal ordinances concerning invasive plants, which expired on July 1, 2014, from October 1, 2018, to July 1, 2019.

This is bad public policy since it undermines local control on how municipalities treat the retail sale and purchase of invasive species. Until there is a statewide regulation by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for the retail sale and purchase of these invasive species, CCM advocates that communities should have the right to determine how to handle these matters.

We would encourage the DEEP to establish regulations for the sale and purchase of invasive species on a statewide basis so that there would be uniformity in its application. However, we cannot support prohibiting a municipality from regulating the sale and purchase of such plants unless a statewide policy is enacted

CCM urges the Committee to **take no action** on SB 339.

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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.



2018 Testimony

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