



*Making Great Communities Happen*  
**Connecticut Chapter of the  
American Planning Association**

**Testimony regarding SB 490  
AN ACT CONCERNING SHARED MUNICIPAL SERVICES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

CCAPA strongly supports the sharing of services to make government more coordinated, efficient and cost effective. We support the strengthening of regional cooperation and service delivery.

Despite that position, CCAPA has serious concerns with the proposed provision of this bill, in lines 140-144, that places the authority to oversee enforcement of zoning regulations into the hands of the municipal chief executive officer. This role, which has historically (and currently) rested with the zoning commission, is better left with that entity. Zoning Commissions possess both the subject-matter understanding and collective wisdom to enforce their own regulations. Placing this authority into the hands of a singular, generally politically-focused entity eliminates this direct familiarity with the subject matter and opens up the regulations to far too much potential for selective enforcement. Furthermore, a statutory change of this type is not necessary to enable the provision of a regional or municipally-shared zoning enforcement agent. A number of smaller towns across the state already share zoning enforcement duties, relying on the existing broad allowance for inter-municipal agreement.

**CCAPA recommends that lines 140-144 of the raised bill be eliminated.**

## **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.

## **CONTACTS**

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