



2019 Testimony

545 LONG WHARF DRIVE, 8TH FLOOR, NEW HAVEN, CT 06511 • PHONE (203) 498-3000

INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

March 5, 2019

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 99% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

CCM **opposes** the following bills:

• **HB 7125**

An Act Concerning Parity For Mental Health And Substance Use Disorder Benefits, Nonquantitative Treatment Limitations, Drugs Prescribed For the Treatment of Substance Use Disorders, And Substance Abuse Services

• **HB 5521**

An Act Expanding Required Health Insurance Coverage For Preexisting Conditions

• **HB 5270**

An Act Concerning Peer Support Specialists And Requiring Health Insurance Coverage for Outpatient Peer Support Services Provided By Certified Peer Support Specialists

• **HB 5627**

An Act Extending The Period A Child, Stepchild Or Other Dependent Child May Retain Dental Insurance Coverage under a Parent's Health Insurance Policy

• **SB 975**

An Act Concerning Required Health Insurance Coverage For Infertility Treatment and Requiring the Insurance Commissioner to Study Coverage Barriers Posed To Individuals with Iatrogenic Infertility

Among other things, these proposals would create new mandated expansions of health insurance coverage in order to provide coverage for various treatments, procedures, supplies and/or equipment.

CCM is sympathetic to the intent of these proposals. However, **state-mandated expansions of health insurance coverage would increase insurance costs for towns and cities.**



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These increased costs would result in higher premiums for municipal employers and most likely property tax increases.

The non-partisan Office of Fiscal Analysis (OFA) has identified similar mandated coverage proposals to be “STATE MANDATES” on municipalities. OFA has concluded that such “...coverage requirements may result in increased premium costs when municipalities enter into new health insurance contracts after January 1...”.¹

CCM urges the Committee to (1) obtain detailed fiscal analyses on the impact these proposals would have on our towns and cities – particularly on local programs and services and (2) **hold these proposals until further analyses are conducted.**

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If you have any questions, please contact Daniel C. Giungi, Senior Legislative Associate for CCM, at dgiungi@ccm-ct.org or (203) 498-3023.

¹ OFA Fiscal Notes SB 376, SB 212, SB 208, 2018.