



2019 Testimony

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

PUBLIC SAFETY & SECURITY COMMITTEE February 14, 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.

HB 6156 “An Act Concerning First Responder Training For Incidents Involving Juveniles With Autism Spectrum Disorder And Nonverbal Learning Disorder”

The bill would require first responders to receive training on techniques for handling incidents involving juveniles with autism spectrum disorder and nonverbal learning disorder.

We are heartened to see that the mandate would not be implemented unless the curriculum for such training was provided at no cost by institutions of higher education, health care professionals or advocacy organizations that are concerned with juveniles with autism spectrum disorder and nonverbal learning disorder, or (2) a collaboration of such institutions, professionals or organizations.

Unfortunately, if the past is any indicator, CCM is concerned that, after a period of time, these providers may discontinue providing the curriculum and local police departments would have to absorb the cost of providing this training in the future.

CCM wants to ensure that towns and cities would not have to provide this training if the providers from higher education, health care professionals or advocacy cease to offer the training curriculum before the Committee takes action on the proposal.



If you have any questions, please contact Mike Muszynski, Advocacy Manager of CCM at mmuszynski@ccm-ct.org or (203) 500-7556.