

Housing Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-5238

AN ACT CONCERNING PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR FIRST-TIME HOMEOWNERS WHO OBTAIN A LOAN FROM THE CONNECTICUT HOUSING

Title: FINANCE AUTHORITY.

Vote Date: 3/5/2020

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 2/27/2020

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

The Housing Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill would assist towns to achieve the state's affordable housing requirements.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None Stated.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

None Stated.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

Betsy Gara – Executive Director – Connecticut Council of Small Towns – oppose – There are many fiscal challenges facing municipalities, the state must refrain from establishing additional property tax exemptions, including municipal option tax exemptions, which simply shift the tax burden to other residents and businesses and undermine the ability of towns to fund critical programs and services.

Zachary McKeown, Legislative Associate - Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) – oppose – this bill would impose a 'de facto' mandate on towns and cities. The proposals would provide property tax relief to a select few at the expense of the remaining local

taxpayers. Local property tax dollars are already stretched too thin and cities and towns cannot shoulder the burden of more property tax abatements.

Reported by: Karen Godbout

Date: 03/09/2020