



## Connecticut Association of Assessing Officers, Inc. Legislative Committee

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### CAAO SUPPORTS RB 6569

Dear Members of the Transportation Committee:

The CAAO wishes to thank your committee for raising 6569 AAC Motor Vehicle Registration.

One of the largest growing forms of Tax Evasion in the state of Connecticut is the local motor vehicle tax. Every year, more and more CT residents are willfully registering their motor vehicles out of state in order to evade taxation in Connecticut.

2 years ago, PA 19-119 Sec. 14 created a task force made up of DMV officials, law enforcement, and assessors to sit down and come up with recommendations and solutions. Unfortunately, the task force did not come to fruition. CAAO is grateful that the Transportation Committee has decided to revive this task force and we are eager to work with DMV, law enforcement and Legislators on this very important issue.

CAAO's major focus is on a fair application of the local property tax and while some residents are being taxed for motor vehicles, others are avoiding it, which destroys the fairness and equity of fair taxation. However, no one can deny the massive revenue loss with literally millions of dollars leaving the state each year. We are not just talking about taxes, but DMV registration fees, emissions fees, and parking tickets that cannot be enforced. Some of these tax evaders have gone so far as to purchase the vehicle out of state and use an out of state insurance agent creating large scale profit loss for CT businesses and a substantial tax loss to Connecticut as a whole.

If Connecticut is to continue taxing motor vehicles, we must take steps to ensure the tax is applied fairly and equally to all residents. CAAO strongly believes that bringing all the various departments and entities involved in Connecticut motor vehicle registration and taxation together, will achieve strategies and solutions that will be successful in addressing this problem.

We again thank you for raising HB 6569 and hope you to vote this out of committee.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Lineaweaver & John Chaponis