



**TESTIMONY**  
of the  
**CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES**  
to the  
**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
February 22, 2008

**CCM opposes Raised Senate Bill 136 - “An Act Placing a Moratorium on Certain Alternative On-Site Sewage Treatment Systems”**

This bill would **place a two-year moratorium on the issuance of permits for the installation of alternative on-site sewage treatment systems with capacities of five thousand gallons or more.**

This bill, which has been put forward to address a specific situation in a particular municipality, will have the unintended consequences of affecting all such projects in the state regardless of the current status of applications before by municipal and state regulatory bodies.

DEP is charged with protecting the environment and waterways of Connecticut and already has a mechanism in place to evaluate permit applications that may affect them. Last year, **DEP reported that it had reviewed more than 40 consecutive months of data regarding these types of systems and found no permit violations** for total nitrogen, biochemical oxygen demand, and total suspended solids. It is our understanding that throughout the reporting period, the testing results indicated that the groundwater was consistently within levels that are suitable for drinking water without treatment - demonstrating that the technology is viable, appropriate and capable of meeting its design commitments and all the DEP permit requirements.

Passage of this bill would ***undermine the ability of municipalities statewide to work with developers using this technology*** in an effort to hamper a single project.

CCM urges the committee to ***take no action*** on this bill.

## ## ##

If you have any questions, please contact Kachina Walsh-Weaver, Senior Legislative Associate of CCM via email [kweaver@ccm-ct.org](mailto:kweaver@ccm-ct.org) or via phone (203) 498-3026.