



TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the
GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE
February 29, 2008

CCM *has concerns with certain sections* of the following bills:

⇒ **SB 444 “An Act Concerning Certain Revisions and Technical Changes to the Elections Laws”**

Section 17(c) Requires the Registrars of Voters to comply with the technical changes to the recanvassing requirements made in this bill. However, the bill *holds the municipality financially responsible for conducting a complete hand recount if the Registrars do not comply.*

As you know, hand recounts are *time consuming* and *very costly*. CCM is concerned about the fiscal ramifications of this proposal. We urge you to obtain a fiscal note before taking any action.

⇒ **HB 5665 “An Act Concerning Changes to the Conduct of Elections and Certain Compensation of Registrars of Voters”**

Section 2 takes away the authority of the local legislative body to approve the location of the polling place if the municipality only has one district, and leaves it solely with the Registrars of Voters. However, in municipalities with more than one voting district, registrars must receive the approval of the local legislative body.

CCM does not understand the rationale for having authority in one circumstance and not in another. The legislative body of the municipality should retain its authority to approve polling locations.

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