



TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the

ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

March 11, 2010

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 90% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony to you on issues of concern to towns and cities.

Raised Senate Bill 420 "An Act Concerning the Broadcast of Local Police Dispatch Calls"

This proposal would mandate that all local police officials transmit all routine police calls on unencrypted channels.

CCM **opposes SB 420** as a new state mandate on municipalities that could have a significant negative impact on local public safety.

Local law enforcement officials rely on a certain degree of flexibility to ensure the safety of their own communities. To this end, local police officers should not be mandated by the General Assembly to broadcast their police calls, via unsecure "unencrypted channels" – particularly if there are serious concerns that criminal elements could benefit from listening to such calls – routine or otherwise. One size does not fit all in Connecticut.

CCM urges the committee to **take no action on SB 420**.

###

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Hamzy, Legislative Associate via email dhamzy@ccm-ct.org or via phone at (203) 843-0705.