

Planning and Development Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-7000

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE OFFICE OF
POLICY AND MANAGEMENT CONCERNING THE STATE PLAN OF

Title: CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT AND PRIORITY FUNDING AREAS.

Vote Date: 3/7/2025

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 2/24/2025

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Planning and Development

REASONS FOR BILL:

To focus on ensuring that state and municipal projects, plans, and funding align with Connecticut's state conservation and development goals. This includes mandatory reviews and reports for projects that exceed certain financial thresholds, and adjustments to thresholds over time based on economic indicators. The changes also promote sustainable, mixed-use development, encourage better use of existing infrastructure, and support regional cooperation. Additionally, there are adjustments in terminology to reflect modern planning structures, such as replacing "regional planning agencies" with "regional councils of governments."

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None Expressed

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

[Rebecca Augur, Responsible Growth Coordinator, Office of Policy and Management](#), offered testimony in support of the bill with recommendations. She recommends increasing the Monetary Threshold for Consistency with the C&D Plan from \$200,000 to \$1 million, as well as Eliminate Priority Funding Areas and states that HB 7000 would repeal the Priority Funding Areas mapping and related requirements, as they've shown little impact on guiding development decisions. She also recommends establishing an Ad Hoc C&D Plan Advisory Committee of state agency staff to assist in developing new implementation mechanisms and

resources, regularly engaging the Continuing Committee during implementation of the C&D Plan, and regularly engaging stakeholders around C&D Plan implementation. If the committee makes those changes, then the Office of Policy and Management will support the bill.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None Expressed

Reported by:

Date: 3/26/2025

Hannah Hayes, Committee Clerk
Matthew Domejczyk, Assistant Clerk