

TESTIMONY

of the

CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES

to the

TASK FORCE ON LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TO FAMILY VIOLENCE

December 7, 2011

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

CCM understands the importance and sensitive nature of the work completed by the Task Force. However, we are concerned with some of the proposed recommendations, in particular those associated with police officer training.

The proposed recommendations, among other things, would mandate more frequent and additional hours of domestic violence training for municipal police officers, as well as impose additional requirements for police chiefs and supervisory personnel.

Let's be frank: these recommendations would impose new unfunded state mandates that would place additional costs on already strained local budgets. Local officials do not dispute the intent of these recommendations – but, do oppose the costs that would be associated with these new mandates.

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If you have any questions, please contact Mike Muszynski, Legislative Analyst of CCM via email mmuszynski@ccm-ct.org or via phone (203) 500-7556.