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With the 2013 session reaching a critical stage:

CCM begins airing radio message today, Wednesday, April 17, calling on state legislators to DO NO HARM TO TOWNS AND CITIES

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, the statewide association of towns and cities, today (Wednesday, April 17) began airing a radio spot across the state -- with the 2013 state legislative session at a critical juncture -- that calls on state legislators to DO NO HARM TO TOWNS AND CITIES.

“It's budget crunch time at the State Capitol and towns and cities have a lot at stake.” said Jim Finley, CCM Executive Director and CEO. “We are calling on all state legislators, and particularly legislative leaders and members of the Appropriations and Finance Committees, to support a new state budget that eliminates harmful cuts to our hometowns.”

Here is the complete text of the spot:

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities' request of the 2013 General Assembly is simple: Do no harm to towns and cities.

Your partners in governing Connecticut urge legislators to support a new state budget that eliminates harmful cuts to our hometowns.

- Maintain state reimbursements for lost property taxes on state-owned property;
- Maintain funding for the Pequot-Mohegan Grant;
- Maintain funding for the State's new Municipal Revenue Sharing Programs, including the critical Manufacturing Transition Grant;
- Maintain funding for public school transportation;

- Reject the elimination of the motor-vehicle property-tax as it would only shift the tax burden to homeowners and businesses; and
- Reject allowing the Governor to cut municipal aid without legislative approval.

CCM is asking state legislators to report out a new state budget that protects municipal aid and avoids higher property taxes, deeper municipal service cuts, and more municipal employee layoffs.

This message is sponsored by CCM – the Voice of Local Government – www.ccm-ct.org

On weekdays this radio spot will be airing during morning and afternoon drive times on Hartford based WTIC-AM radio (the largest news radio station in Connecticut).

The same ad is also airing on weekdays throughout the day on nearly 20 radio stations located around the state that are affiliated with the Connecticut Radio Network. These stations include: WICC-AM in Bridgeport; WELI-AM in New Haven; WATR-AM in Waterbury; WSTC-AM in Stamford; WDRC-AM, WMMW-AM, and WWCO-AM in Hartford; WLAD-AM, WINE-AM and WDAQ-FM in Danbury; WZBG-FM in Litchfield; WICH-AM and WMOS-FM in New London; WSNG-AM in Torrington WILI-AM and WMRD-AM in Windham; and WINY-AM in Putnam.