

For immediate release
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MUNICIPAL IMPACT OF THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED STATE BUDGET REVISIONS: SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS FORUM WITH MUNICIPAL LEADERS

FRIDAY, MARCH 20 – AT 10 A.M.

Municipal leaders from the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) will discuss the impact of the Governor's proposed state budget on towns and cities before a special forum the General Assembly's Appropriations Committee on Friday, March 20, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the State Legislative Office Building, Room 2C.

Municipal leaders who will testify include:

Matthew Galligan	Town Manager of South Windsor and President of CCM
John Elsesser	Town Manager of Coventry and President of COST
Toni Harp	Mayor of New Haven
Pedro Segarra	Mayor of Hartford
Deberey Hinchey	Mayor of Norwich
Betsy Paterson	Mayor of Mansfield
William Dickinson	Mayor of Wallingford
Leo Paul	First Selectman of Litchfield
Laura Francis	First Selectman of Durham

Municipal leaders are expected to emphasize to state legislators that they are very appreciative that Governor Malloy has maintained a commitment to property taxpayers by sparing towns and cities from cuts in aid in the major state grants. Due to the fact that some state grants are not fully funded, several communities could receive less funding as a result of shifting grant distributions. CCM will work with the Governor and Legislature to ensure that each municipality is held harmless.

The main (categorical) state aid grants that go to all towns and cities are protected from cutbacks: the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) Grant; PILOTS for Private Colleges and Hospitals and for State Property; the Pequot/Mohegan Grant, the Town Aid Road (TAR) Grant and the Local Capital Improvement Program (LoCIP).

However, CCM is concerned about the fiscal impact of four proposals contained in the budget: (a) requiring towns to pay 100% of Resident State Trooper costs, (b) requiring full day kindergarten, (c) eliminating the public housing PILOT and tax abatement, and (d) requiring all towns to pay a solid waste disposal fee. In addition, the budget contains a \$20 million cut in municipal aid for MORE Commission-related "municipal efficiencies and regional cooperation".

CCM is working with the Governor and General Assembly to protect municipal aid for all 169 towns, and provide towns and cities meaningful unfunded state mandates relief -- including ensuring legislative oversight regarding draft changes to the Stormwater Sewer Systems (MS4 permit); modifying the requirements for posting legal notices in newspapers; and amending the State's prevailing wage rate mandate.