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For immediate release
Contact:
Jim Finley (203) 804-6895
Kevin Maloney (203) 710-3486

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7 – AT 1 P.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 Wednesday, March 7, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the State Legislative Office Building, Room 2E.

Municipal leaders who will testify include:

Mary Glassman	First Selectman of Simsbury and President of CCM
William Finch	Mayor of Bridgeport
Barbara Henry	First Selectwoman of Roxbury and President of COST
Marcia Leclerc	Mayor of East Hartford
Betsy Paterson	Mayor of Mansfield
Michael Pavia	Mayor of Stamford

Lisa Pelligrini	First Selectman of Somers
Patricia Llodra	First Selectman of Newtown
John Elsessor	Town Manager of Coventry

Municipal leaders are expected to emphasize to state legislators that the state budget adjustments proposed by Governor Malloy represent good news overall for CT towns and cities, and serve as a strong starting point for discussion with the 2012 General Assembly.

CCM leaders are expected to highlight:

- Support the Governor increasing the Educational Cost Sharing Grant for towns and cities by \$54.5 million, although it would redirect \$6.4 million of that increase in funding to charter schools, which CCM opposes. CCM also has concerns with the Governor's proposal to reduce education funding to some towns with less the 1,000 students, unless they move to a regional school district.
- Support for the Governor's proposals to provide relief from numerous state mandates on town governments – proposals that will provide for real fiscal relief for property taxpayers.
- Support for the Governor's proposal for an additional \$6 million in funding for the State's New Property Tax Relief Grant, which will increase the funding under that program to \$50 million annually.