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**Statement by the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM)  
on Appropriations Committee Budget Proposal**

**Today's proposed state budget is a mixed bag for town and cities;  
State PILOT & Mohegan-Pequot funding restored; makes additional cuts in municipal aid**

"Municipal leaders know that this latest state budget proposal is part of a process, and that we are still not yet at a final product. Today's proposed state budget is a mixed bag for towns and cities. State Legislators have answered some of the pleas of their local partners by partially restoring critical revenues to hometowns such as the PILOT reimbursement for state-owned property and Pequot-Mohegan funding. There is still much municipal aid progress to be made as the budget negotiation process continues.

"CCM's analysis shows that General Fund Unrestricted State Aid to Municipalities is being reduced by \$150 million under today's state budget proposal. This compares to the Governor's budget proposal that would have reduced General Fund Unrestricted State Aid to Municipalities by \$123 million. (See attachments for CCM analyses.)

"The proposed elimination of public school transportation grant funding (-\$25 million), reimbursements for state-mandated property tax exemptions for manufacturing machinery and equipment (-\$47 million), and ground-breaking municipal revenue sharing funds (-\$45 million) are serious cause for concern. The fact remains, towns and cities -- and local property taxpayers -- cannot afford to pay for the State's budget deficit. Cuts in state aid to municipalities will cause increases in local property taxes, cuts in municipal services, and layoffs of municipal employees and teachers. To this end, CCM remains committed to working with the General Assembly and the Governor to enact a state budget that is fair to towns and cities."

*- Jim Finley, CCM Executive Director and CEO*

