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**CCM launches election-season advocacy campaign  
with new 2012 public policy report,  
*Municipal Finance In Connecticut: Overreliance on the Property Tax,*  
to bring candidates up to speed on this key state-local issue**

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) today (Monday, September 24) released the first report of its 2012 election-season advocacy campaign that is designed to educate and influence state legislative candidates and candidates for CT's Congressional and U.S. Senate seats.

*Municipal Finance In Connecticut: Overreliance on the Property Tax* assesses in detail the state of the property tax in Connecticut in 2012; and adequacy of state policies now in place designed to reduce the overreliance on this tax. (See attachment for complete report.)

“A property-tax dependent system only works fairly if the property and income wealth of a community can generate enough property tax revenue at a reasonable cost to taxpayers to meet the need for public services, or state aid is sufficient to fill local revenue gaps,” said Jim Finley, CCM Executive Director and CEO. “It is increasingly clear that the overreliance on the property tax is inadequate for funding local government services, particularly education, in Connecticut.”

“The overdependence on the property tax is unsustainable,” said Finley, “and Hometown Connecticut is in desperate need of revenue assistance. Harnessing the revenue-raising capacity of the State and sharing resources with local governments is one way to reduce the overreliance on property taxes in Connecticut.”

See pages 12 and 13 of the report for all the specific recommendations that CCM is pressing the candidates on to help reduce the property tax burden in Connecticut.

**As the 2012 campaign season heats up, CCM will issue a wide range of public policy candidate bulletins highlighting key state-local issues.** The bulletins are relied upon by incumbent lawmakers and challengers alike, municipal chief executives, and other state and federal leaders and are designed to educate policy-makers on solutions to key state and local issues.