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PRESS ADVISORY TO:
REPORTERS, EDITORS, AND TV & RADIO NEWS DIRECTORS

**COALITION OF MUNICIPAL AND BUSINESS OFFICIALS
UNITE TO OPPOSE NEW COMBINED MEGA MANDATES
ON TOWNS, TAXPAYERS**

**News conference set for Wednesday, May 27
at 11:00 a.m. at State Capitol**

With only eight legislative session days to go, **the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM)**, will lead a coalition news conference on **Wednesday morning, May 27, at 11:00 a.m. outside the State Capitol Press Room** to adamantly oppose State Senate Bill 593, which would establish not one, but two new, unnecessary and super costly workers' compensation mandates on local governments and CT property taxpayers.

Key participants at the news conference include:

- Joe DeLong, CCM Executive Director
- Matthew Galligan, Town Manager of South Windsor & CCM President
- Mark Boughton, Mayor of Danbury and First Vice President of CCM
- Bonnie Stewart, Vice President of Government Affairs, CT Business and Industry Association (CBIA)
- Steven Werbner, Town Manager of Tolland

Other municipal leaders from CT towns and cities are also expected to participate in the news conference.

Last Thursday night, the State Senate passed SB 593, by a 21-14 vote. The bill, as amended, combines two costly unfunded state mandates on municipalities -- (1) new mental stress benefits for police officers, and (2) new special cancer presumptions for firefighters.

The coalition will urge State Representatives to consider (a) the huge costs to property taxpayers; (b) how unwieldy SB 593 would be; (c) how the bill is predicated on inconclusive science; (d) the havoc the bill will raise on workers' compensation premiums and insurance rates; and (e) the lack of proof that a statewide problem exists to make the bill necessary..

SB 593 is now before the House of Representatives with only eight session days remaining in the 2015 state legislative session, which concludes on June 3 at midnight..

Separately, these two mandates would be very problematic for towns and cities – however, this new mega mandate makes the stakes for property taxpayers twice as high.