
FW: (EXTERNAL MESSAGE)COST PUBLIC HEARING ALERT

From James Drumm <jdrumm@coventry-ct.gov>

Date Thu 3/5/2026 2:27 PM

To Alex Taylor <ataylor@coventry-ct.gov>

From: CT Council of Small Towns <cost@connecticutcouncilofsmalltowns.ccsend.com>

Sent: Friday, February 27, 2026 2:09 PM

To: James Drumm <jdrumm@coventry-ct.gov>

Subject: (EXTERNAL MESSAGE)COST PUBLIC HEARING ALERT



Public Hearing Alert

Friday, February 27, 2026.

Planning & Development Public Hearing

TESTIMONY NEEDED!

Today, the Planning & Development Committee is holding a public hearing on several bills of interest to municipalities. Please review the below bills and, if your community has questions or concerns, you may submit written testimony (via the Public Hearing Agenda) before the end of the day. Links to the bills' subject matter, as well as their intended purposes, have been provided below.

[H.B. No. 5281](#) - **AN ACT CONCERNING PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT** - To clarify certain publication requirements of actions or decisions of a planning commission.

[H.B. No. 5282](#) - **AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONTINUING LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONCERNING THE STATE PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT** - To increase cost thresholds relating to certain actions required to be undertaken consistent with the state plan of conservation and development, eliminate a requirement that certain acquisitions by state agencies be consistent with such plan and eliminate priority funding areas.

[H.B. No. 5283](#) - **AN ACT AUTHORIZING MUNICIPALITIES TO PROHIBIT THE SALE OF DOGS, CATS AND RABBITS IN PET SHOPS** - To authorize municipalities to prohibit the sale of dogs, cats, and rabbits in pet shops.

[H.B. No. 5284](#) - **AN ACT CONCERNING PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR CERTAIN FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS** - To authorize municipalities to abate up to five hundred dollars per assessment year of property taxes for certain first-time homebuyers who obtain a loan from the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority.

[H.B. No. 5285](#) - **AN ACT CONCERNING THE ASSESSMENT OF CERTAIN MOTOR VEHICLES** - To specify that older motor vehicles shall be assessed at a rate of ten per cent of the manufacturer's suggested retail price or five hundred dollars, whichever is less, except that in a municipality that has elected to adopt a modified depreciation schedule, such motor vehicles shall be assessed at a rate of fifteen per cent of the manufacturer's suggested retail price or five hundred dollars, whichever is less.

H.B. No. 5286 - AN ACT CONCERNING A MUNICIPAL TAX ABATEMENT FOR SURVIVING DOMESTIC PARTNERS OF POLICE OFFICERS, FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS - To extend a property tax abatement for surviving spouses of certain first responders who die in the performance of duty to the domestic partners of such first responders.

H.B. No. 5287 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO STATUTES RELATING TO PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT.

- Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 7-576e of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 1, 2026): (d) Notwithstanding any provision of [the] this section, no municipality shall be designated a tier IV municipality, by any means other than that provided in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section, until April 1, 2018.
- Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 7-576i of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 1, 2026): (b) The secretary may distribute funds from the Municipal Restructuring Fund to a third party on behalf of a designated tier II, [tier] III or [tier] IV municipality. Funds received by a municipality pursuant to this section may be used, in part, to pay an arbitrator selected pursuant to clause (v) of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 7-576e.
- Sec. 3. Subdivision (8) of subsection (a) of section 8-13dd of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 1, 2026): (8) "Planning region" has the same meaning as provided in section 4-124i;

H.B. No. 5288 - AN ACT CONCERNING UTILITY CONNECTIONS FOR ACCESSORY APARTMENTS - To (1) change statutory references to "accessory apartments" to "accessory dwelling units", and (2) specify that towns, districts or utilities may not require separate utility connections for accessory apartments pursuant to special act zoning regulations.

H.B. No. 5289 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE PUBLICATION OF MUNICIPAL LEGAL NOTICES - To require municipalities to publish legal notices on their Internet web sites.

H.B. No. 5290 - AN ACT CONCERNING COASTAL SITE PLAN REVIEWS FOR CERTAIN SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES - To allow zoning commissions to exempt certain single-family residential structures from requirements concerning coastal site plan reviews and instead submit quarterly reports to the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection concerning the approval of such structures.

S.B. No. 272 - AN ACT AUTHORIZING MUNICIPALITIES TO ENFORCE CERTAIN BLIGHT REGULATIONS WITHOUT PROVIDING NOTICE OR AN OPPORTUNITY TO

REMEDiate - To remove certain notice and opportunity to remediate provisions concerning repeat blight violations.

[S.B. No. 273](#) - **AN ACT CONCERNING LOCAL GOVERNMENT** - To clarify certain responsibilities of the civil service board.

[S.B. No. 274](#) - **AN ACT CONCERNING NONRESIDENT LANDLORD REGISTRATION AND INCREASING PENALTIES FOR REPEAT BUILDING AND FIRE CODE VIOLATIONS** - To (1) require certain nonresident landlords, project-based housing providers or agents in charge of rental properties to register certain personal identifying information, and (2) increase penalties for repeat violations of building and fire codes.

[S.B. No. 275](#) - **AN ACT REQUIRING THE OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM TO ASSIST MUNICIPALITIES IN PUBLISHING CERTAIN BUDGET INFORMATION** - To require the Office of Policy and Management to establish a program to assist municipalities in publishing certain budget information online.

[S.B. No. 276](#) - **AN ACT REQUIRING MUNICIPALITIES TO POST MONTHLY REPORTS CONCERNING REVENUE AND CERTAIN EXPENDITURES** - To require that municipalities post monthly reports concerning revenue and expenditure data on the municipality's Internet web site.

Public Hearing Agenda



Connecticut Council of Small Towns | 1245 Farmington Avenue, 101 | West Hartford, CT 06107
US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)