

Western Connecticut COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



February 25, 2024

Esteemed Chairs Kavros Degraw and Rahman,
Members of the Planning and Development Committee:

The Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WestCOG) appreciates the opportunity to comment on House Bill 5273, *An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Intergovernmental Policy and Planning Division within the Office of Policy and Management*.

WestCOG **supports** this bill.

The state's Regional Performance Improvement Program (RPIP) makes competitive grants to Councils of Governments (COGs) and Regional Educational Service Centers (RESCs) to achieve cost efficiencies, enhance capacity, and improve levels in the delivery of local government services. Section 7 of the bill would improve the application and implementation process under RPIP, enabling projects to flow through the program more efficiently.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francis R. Pickering".

Francis R. Pickering
Executive Director