



**Governor Ned Lamont
State of Connecticut**



FACT SHEET
2024 Legislative Session

**HOUSE BILL 5056
*AN ACT FACILITATING THE EXPANSION OF SHARED MUNICIPAL SERVICES***

The Problem

For decades, studies have demonstrated inherent inefficiencies throughout Connecticut’s local delivery of services, both municipal and state. Many services offered by individual municipalities lend themselves to multi-town, regionalized alternatives. Simultaneously, Connecticut has dozens of regional service delivery systems with inconsistent delivery structures and significant geographic overlap.

Removing barriers to streamline local service sharing has been a longtime goal of the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, Regional Council of Governments (COGs), and other municipal organizations. While Connecticut has an established statutory infrastructure enabling interlocal agreements¹, it remains difficult to combine workforces represented by multiple bargaining units, local charter provisions, and outdated state laws.

Governor Lamont’s Solution

This proposal eliminates barriers posed by local charter restrictions, outdated state laws, and inefficient labor practices by streamlining regional and shared services opportunities. This will allow municipalities and regional COGs to expand access to resources, enhance services, and reduce costs.

The bill enables municipalities to enter into voluntary regional consolidation agreements or arrangements and interlocal agreements excluding the stipulation of “wages, hours and other conditions of employment.” The addition allows any group of collective bargaining units to establish a coalition collective bargaining unit. Any impact would depend on the terms of any collective bargaining agreements entered by such a coalition.

Additionally, the bill permits a regional council of government to make joint appointments or commissions in lieu of any required, individual municipal appointment or commission.

¹ CGS §7-339a et seq.

Contacts:

Governor’s Office: Matthew Brokman, 860-951-9619 or matthew.brokman@ct.gov
Office of Policy and Management: Susan Sherman, 860-416-2008 or susan.b.sherman@ct.gov
State Capitol, Room 406

Municipalities, especially those of smaller size with less internal capacity for specialized skills, capital equipment, and technology, will see cost reductions by sharing services or purchasing services cooperatively.

Expanding shared services will enable professional staff from larger jurisdictions or regional entities to help communities that otherwise could not afford or attract staff, addressing ongoing staff shortages. By eliminating barriers, municipalities can also reduce their local property tax burden and make our state more competitive for economic growth and job creation.

Municipal functions that may be voluntary regionalized under the bill include, but are not limited to, the following administrative, planning, and regulatory activities:

Chapter 93	Registrar of Voters
Chapter 96a	Assessors
Chapter 100	Municipal Parking Authorities
7-148b	Fair Rent Commission
7-148g	Fair Housing Commission
7-148p	Land Bank Authority
8-3	Zoning Enforcement Office
8-23	Plan of Conservation and Development (Regional Plan)
8-30j	Affordable Housing Plan (Regional Plan)
12-136	Tax Collector
19a-181b	Local Emergency Medical Services Plan (Regional Plan)
22-331	Animal Control Officer
22-340	Licensing of Dogs
22a-36 to 22a-45	Inland Wetlands Agency
29-251 to 29-371	Building Official