TO:  STATE SENATOR TONI HARP, CO-CHAIR  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE DENISE MERRILL, CO-CHAIR  
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE  
FROM:  LYLE D. WRAY, PhD  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
SUBJECT:  SUPPORT FOR FUNDING OF SENATE BILL 1057, AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PROGRAM OF HOUSING FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH  
DATE:  APRIL 3, 2007

The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) wishes to express its strong support for Senate Bill 1057, An Act Establishing a Program of Housing for Economic Growth. In order to make this program a reality, we strongly encourage you to include a $60 million appropriation from the surplus in the budget you are now working on for the Connecticut Housing Program for Economic Growth (the HOMEConnecticut Proposal).

CRCOG is the regional planning organization serving the City of Hartford and the 28 surrounding suburban and rural communities. The CRCOG legislative priorities for 2007 include support for an expansion of affordable housing opportunities as an issue necessary to improve our regional economic competitiveness. The voluntary program proposed through Senate Bill 1057 will provide incentives to encourage the creation of housing affordable to working families, something that is much needed in the Capitol Region and the State.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

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