

Roxanne Maher

From: Rep. France, Mike <Mike.France@cga.ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2019 9:31 PM
To: Fred Allyn, III; Linda C. Davis; Robert Congdon (Preston First Selectman); Mayor Ron McDaniel; Tom McNally (Montville TC)
Cc: Michael Sinko (Preston BoS); Lynwood Crary (Preston BoS); Roxanne Maher; zRepresentative Mike France
Subject: FW: Municipal Ethics Legislative Proposal
Attachments: ACC Municipal Ethics - Minimum Provisions (2019).docx

Municipal Leaders,

Attached is a recommendation approved by the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board, which was received today from the Office of State Ethics for consideration before the GAE Committee. It provides a requirement for each municipality to adopt a code of ethics by October 1, 2020 that complies with the minimum provisions described therein. As stated below, the GAE Committee raised a placeholder concept bill on February 15, 2019 that could be updated with the attached proposed language. Please provide any feedback on this proposal.

Regards,
Mike France
State Representative, 42nd Assembly District
Ledyard, Preston, Montville
District: (860) 464-9229
Capitol: (860) 842-1423
Web: www.RepFrance.com

From: Gagnon, Hailey
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2019 4:25 PM
To: Rep. France, Mike
Subject: FW: Municipal Ethics Legislative Proposal

From: Lewandowski, Peter [mailto:Peter.Lewandowski@ct.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2019 4:20 PM
To: Sen. Flexer, Mae; Rep. Fox, Dan; Sen. Sampson, Rob; zRepresentative Mike France
Cc: Rogers, Nick; Carson, Carol; Nicolescu, Nancy
Subject: Municipal Ethics Legislative Proposal

Dear Co-Chairs and Ranking Members:

Attached is a legislative proposal from the Office of State Ethics concerning municipal ethics. On February 15, 2019, the GAE Committee voted to raise a concept with respect to municipal ethics (Agenda item, V.27). The attached proposed language was approved by the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board at its February 28, 2019 meeting.

The proposal requires that all municipalities adopt a municipal code of ethics that has, at a minimum, basic ethics provisions that would apply to municipal officials and employees. Municipalities have an

option to draft their own minimum provisions, as described in the proposal, or adopt model minimum provisions included in the proposal.

During 2018, the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board Subcommittee on Municipal Ethics ("Subcommittee") held numerous meetings during which it discussed with various stakeholders their views concerning municipal ethics. In addition, the Subcommittee conducted a survey of all Connecticut municipalities regarding their treatment of municipal ethics matters. Based on the these discussions and the results of the survey, the Subcommittee determined that, at this time, the best approach concerning municipal ethics is to require all municipalities in Connecticut to have a Code of Ethics that, at a minimum, has certain basic ethics provisions.

The proposed minimum provisions are commonly used in any governmental ethics code. In fact, the results of the municipal ethics survey indicate that a large number of municipalities in Connecticut, both cities and towns, already have these basic provisions in their existing ethics codes. However, there is still a considerable segment of Connecticut municipalities that do not have an ethics code in place.

The Office of State Ethics hopes that members of the GAE Committee will support this proposal. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to Shannon McCarthy at the Legislative Commissioners' Office.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Lewandowski
Associate General Counsel
Office of State Ethics

18-20 Trinity Street | Hartford, CT 06106-1660
Tel: 860.263.2392 | Fax: 860.263.2402 | E-mail: peter.lewandowski@ct.gov