



**SOUTHEASTERN
CONNECTICUT
COUNCIL OF
GOVERNMENTS**

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Representing 22 towns, cities, and boroughs in
Southeastern Connecticut.

February 25, 2025

Connecticut Environment Committee
Legislative Office Building
300 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

SUBJECT: HB 6917 AN ACT CONCERNING THE MANAGEMENT OF SOLID WASTE IN THE STATE

Dear Members of the Connecticut Environment Committee,

On behalf of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SECOG), I am writing to express **support** for HB 6917, which addresses a number of issues related to solid waste in Connecticut. [SECOG's Legislative Agenda for the 2025 Session of the General Assembly](#) identifies solid waste disposal as a priority item for legislative action, specifically highlighting the need for expanded EPR programs and for pursuing strategies such as food waste diversion. According to [SECOG's August 2024 Solid Waste Report](#), the majority of southeastern Connecticut's municipalities have seen an increase in solid waste disposal costs, even beyond the national inflation rate. This constrains municipal budgets and diverts funding away from other programs that can benefit residents. State-supported diversion programs can help alleviate this burden while also advancing long-term solutions to the waste capacity crisis.

Through the adoption of this bill, we hope to better understand the types of EPR programs that will be effective and to be able to implement food waste diversion practices that benefit municipalities and positively impact solid waste management in our region and throughout Connecticut.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to support this bill.

Sincerely,

Amanda E. Kennedy, AICP
Executive Director