



State & Commerce Committee - Board of Representatives

Lindsey Miller, Chair

Robert Roqueta, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Monday, April 16, 2018

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Republican Caucus Room, 4th Floor, Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT

The State & Commerce Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Miller and Committee Member Rep. Adams. Absent or excused were Committee Member Reps. Graziosi, Liebson, Mahoney, McGarry and Roqueta. Also present was Francis Pickering, WestCOG.

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. SC30.009	REVIEW; Update on Council of Governments Activities/Review COG functions. 03/07/18 – Submitted by Rep. Miller 03/15/18 – Held in Committee	Report Made & Held

Mr. Pickering distributed the attached [2017 WestCOG Annual report](#). He reviewed the report and discussed the COG with the Committee as follows:

- Councils of Governments differ from Regional Planning Agencies in that the municipal chief executive officers on their boards; in 2013 the State converted all RPAs to COGS and required each have at least 14 members
- WestCOG has been operating for 3 years
- COGs have almost all of the powers of municipalities including zoning and police powers
- WestCOG is the 2nd largest COG and the only one growing in terms of population and economically
- The primary focus is to serve as a host for a metropolitan planning organization (any federal transportation dollars spent in a metropolitan area require the approval of a MPO under federal law)
- The General Assembly is pushing the COGs toward regionalism

Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lindsey Miller, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).