



Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations

August 7, 2025

To: ACIR Members

From: John Filchak, ACIR Chair and Steve Stephanou, ACIR Vice-Chair

RE: **ACIR Meeting Schedule Adjustment**

First, thank you to each of our subcommittee leaders for moving the subcommittee process forward and to the members that have participated in this process. I realize that this is not easy during the summer - so it is especially appreciated.

Our September 4 regular ACIR meeting is fast approaching and it seems too fast for our original schedule to be realistic. The General Assembly has significant pending work regarding housing, federal changes and more, - resulting in real competition for their focus. We are making an adjustment to our upcoming schedule to ensure that the work you have undertaken is (1) fully understood by the other ACIR members and that they have the opportunity for questions and input and (2) that our work be refined in such a way to gain legislative support as we approach the 2026 legislative session.

Our new schedule is as follows:

- **September ACIR Meeting** -We will ask each of the three subcommittees to provide a brief review of their work to date - with draft findings/recommendations. We would like each group to provide a bulleted list for distribution one week before the meeting for circulation to ACIR members. Doing this allows us a sort of soft restart to our work as a full commission and for members that have not participated thus far to gain an understanding of where the work is headed.
- **October/November ACIR Meetings** -- These meetings will be dedicated to the work of the subcommittees, which will be asked to provide a detailed briefing of their work, findings and recommendations for discussion by the full ACIR. Our goal is for the full ACIR to consider the work and provide any further input towards consensus recommendations for final presentation and a vote at our December meeting.
- **December ACIR Meeting** – We will invite legislators to learn about the work we have done and to provide whatever comments they may make. Key legislators will be from

The Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR) is a 25-member agency of the State of Connecticut created in 1985 to study system issues between the state and local governments and to recommend solutions as appropriate. The membership is designed to represent the state legislative and executive branches, municipalities and other local interests, and the general public. The ACIR's purpose, as specified in [Section 2-79a](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes, is to enhance coordination and cooperation between the state and local governments. There are four facets to this work: (1) serve as a forum for consultation between state, regional, and local officials; (2) conduct research on intergovernmental issues; (3) encourage and coordinate studies of intergovernmental issues by universities, research and consulting organizations, and others; and (4) initiate policy development and make recommendations for consideration by all levels and branches of government. The Commission is supported by the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) and is located at 450 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1308.

For further information please email: ACIR@ct.gov

the committees (P&D, Education, GAE, Labor, Special Education, FR&B, Oversight, Higher Education, and Appropriations) having cognizance over that work contained in our draft report, - as well as legislative leadership.

- **January, 2026 ACIR Meeting (probably January 8)** - a final vote will be taken on the report. The final report will include potential statutory language for each of the recommendations - so we ask that the subcommittees add this task to their work. The Legislative Commissioners' Office (LCO) - which is tasked with writing legislation - will, no doubt, change whatever language the ACIR suggests. However, it is always productive to start with what you believe is the new language or modification should be rather to serve as a guide for LCO - rather than assume that LCO understands what language will provide the intended outcome.
- **Later in January or February, 2026** - ACIR will request (and hopefully be granted) for either a joint committee briefing on our report or a series of meetings with committees of cognizance related to our report.

Thank you - we look forward to seeing you in September and please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.