

# **LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN CONNECTICUT, 3<sup>RD</sup> EDITION**

## Instructor's Guide

### Chapter 26

#### **Class Discussions**

1. Why and when did Connecticut eliminate county government?
2. What has replaced county government?
3. Is there more or less access to public officials and citizen participation in local government with Connecticut's current system of local government?
4. Would the efficiencies of eliminating municipalities and concentrating the delivery of services into counties or regional governments reduce participation and access to local government officials?
5. What services currently delivered by your local government do you think could be better delivered by a regional government and why?

#### **Class Assignments**

1. Invite the head of your local government to your class and ask them about regional government. Which regional government does your municipality belong to, what services does the regional government provide?
2. Invite your school principle or superintendent to visit and discuss the pros and cons of a regional school district.
3. Break the class down into different groups assigning a functional area of local government (i.e. police, fire, public works, recreation) and have them decide whether some of these functions could be performed on a regional basis and which ones might not and why?

#### **Field Trips and Other Ideas**

- Class visitations by local government officials, the Mayor, Town/City Manager, First Selectman, school Superintendent are all great opportunities to talk about the current structure of local government in Connecticut, the opportunities and problems of regionalization at both the policy level, and the service delivery level.