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**Written Testimony
Comptroller Kevin Lembo
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**Concerning
S.B. 536 AAC Establishing a State-Wide Plan and Process for Siting Small Cell Canister Antenna
and Distributed Antenna Systems**

Good morning Senator Winfield, Representative Reed, Senator Formica, Representative Hoydick, and Members of the Energy and Technology Committee:

Thank you for raising this legislation and for the opportunity to show my support for advancing our state economy through strategic planning and smart regulation.

Technology and innovation have the potential to drive the next iteration of Connecticut's economy. That cannot happen without connectivity. Small cell antennae offer a supplement to traditional cellular and broadband networks, and can represent a cost-effective service method for our underserved communities — especially in the northwest part of the state.

Establishing a plan, and a consistent process, for siting these antennae should streamline the adoption of this technology for businesses and interested communities. I also support the emphasis on municipal participation in the proposed legislative language.

The state should be consistently reviewing its telecommunications regulations to ensure we are attractive to new investments, and are encouraging the development of ultra-high speed networks at competitive prices for businesses and consumers. I applaud the committee for taking on that responsibility and look forward to future conversations.

I urge your support.

Thank you for your time.