

*To:* CT General Assembly Planning & Development Committee

*From:* Robert Amatruda, South Windsor

*Re:* SB 1024, An Act Concerning Zoning Authority, Certain Design Guidelines, Qualifications Of Certain Land Use Officials And Certain Sewage Disposal Systems

*Date:* March 15, 2021

Chairman Cassano, Chairwoman McCarthy Vahey, Vice Chairman Needleman, Vice Chairwoman Goupil, Ranking Member Senator Hwang, Ranking Member Zullo, and Members of the Committee:

I would like to voice my support of SB 1024. As a Massachusetts native who has been living in Connecticut since 2004, I feel as though I have come to understand housing, both the positives and negatives quite well within the state. I have lived all throughout Hartford County and from my experiences within a number of towns I have faced housing inequality first hand. Whether it was living in the west end of Hartford or West Hartford, I found the disparity in types of housing quite stark and shocking. Hartford was full of multi-family homes, the tenement housing which was converted into apartments in which my wife and I resided was surrounded by such. However when we moved into West Hartford and then South Windsor, I found the difference in housing opportunity and availability quite apparent. This needs to change! We need to allow for more diverse housing within this state. I know that with a change in availability of housing we will be able to increase desegregation, allow for more opportunity for people of all walks of life to find affordable homes throughout our state. I call Connecticut home and I feel safe within my town. I want others within the boundaries of our amazing state to feel the same way. Please support SB 1024 for a more diverse Connecticut.

Sincerely,

Robert Amatruda