

*To:* CT General Assembly Planning & Development Committee

*From:* Claudette Cariño, Norwalk, CT

*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 feel we do not do enough to address inequality in this state and one of the biggest factors we choose to ignore is housing inequality. This is why I am writing to you today to say I support SB 1024.

We know that a path to home ownership is a path to increasing generational wealth. For people who are not fortunate enough to be born into a rich family, being able to own a home that allows them to generate income will help to establish generational wealth. It will also allow them to afford the home that they bought.

I, also, believe that the mandates in SB 1024 will help to diversify our community therefore making our community a more understanding and welcoming place. Keeping people out does not encourage growth, instead it keeps us down. At this moment in time it is important that we are looking at ourselves and deciding whether or not we want to keep contributing to racism. I would say that we do not and now is the time to address it and end it in all of it's forms including housing discrimination.

Thank you for your time,

Claudette Carino

