

To: CT General Assembly Planning & Development Committee

From: Chris D'Antonio, Enfield

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:

As a Connecticut resident with an optimistic eye for the future but also an acknowledgement of the past, I am in full support SB 1024. This bill addresses historical grievances related to segregated development and overly restrictive zoning regulations while also generating momentum for increased and improved development that will undoubtedly improve our state's future.

Now, as much as ever, anything we do must be done with a particular eye on sustainability and equitability. This bill supports both. Connecticut has very much been defined by excess sprawl, but by building up our main streets and transit areas, we can make the state even more livable and welcome neighbors without having to excessively consume our natural resources and increase vehicle miles traveled. The same goes for limiting excess minimum parking requirements.

By improving and making it easier for development of multifamily housing as well as accessory dwelling units, we can not only increase the supply of housing in the state, we can also add more choices. While a single-family home is a great option for my family, I don't assume it's the best and I know it's not the most affordable choice. Opening up middle housing is a key to a non-segregated, mixed-income society.

I am proud to support SB 1024 alongside Desegregate Connecticut because it's the right thing to do socially and environmentally and it'd be a great improvement for all of our state.