

Hello, my name is Anna Donnelly and I am writing in support of SB 1024. SB 1024 is important to me because I believe it would make Connecticut a nicer and healthier place to live. I am a college student attending school outside of Connecticut currently, but ideally, I would like to settle down in Connecticut. However, there are some factors that would impact my decision. Firstly, I am incredibly intimidated by the cost of housing in Connecticut. There are not many affordable options for new graduates in cities or centers of industry. Additionally, I am concerned about the level of development that occurs in Connecticut, taking away from the environmental beauty the state naturally has. The protection of green space has become even more important throughout the pandemic and focusing development in areas with existing infrastructure and housing will improve the conditions for people already living in these neighborhoods, while also protecting green space for everyone in the state to enjoy. Another reason I support SB 1024 is because I believe it will curb segregation, indirectly improving health outcomes. I am currently doing research about the impact that living in a segregated community has on children's health, specifically asthma risk. My findings have shown a strong association between degree of segregation and high asthma prevalence in primary schools. Legislation like SB 1024 is incredibly important to begin to undo the segregation within our state thereby empowering and enabling communities and individuals to lead healthy lives.

Anna Donnelly,
Niantic, Connecticut