

I am writing to express a strong opposition to the proposed SB 1024 bill. This bill will strip local governments of their ability to determine how they oversee planning and development. This in turn determines budgets, schools and town operations, which all results in how our tax money is spent. Retaining local fiscal control is essential. We have a fiscally sound town because many local volunteers are involved, contrary to the condition of the state government. In Darien we have achieved two of the six total moratoriums issued from 8-30G. As a town we are addressing the issues of affordable housing and doing it well without the mandates that would be imposed by SB 1024. If we lose local control that will result in more residents choosing to leave both our town and ultimately the state. I would hope the interests of each individual town are taken into consideration before such drastic changes are put into legislation that would change our town detrimentally forever.

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