

To: Connecticut General Assembly Planning and Development Committee  
From: Patrick Farley, West Hartford

Re: SB 1024, An Act Concerning Zoning Authority, Certain Design Guidelines, etc.

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've lived in the same neighborhood in West Hartford for 37 years. I walk the streets of my neighborhood daily. Since the murder of George Floyd last summer, our neighborhood has been full of Black Lives Matter signs, but in 37 years, to my knowledge, there has never been a black family living on my street or the streets that surround me.

How can any good faith effort towards integrating Connecticut not include some strong proactive measures on the part of our state government to require municipalities to initiate fair housing in a way that is defined, measurable and accountable?

I urge you to take on, at long last, the shameful legacy of housing discrimination in Connecticut.