

To: Connecticut General Assembly  
Planning and Zoning Committee

From: Karen Gano  
South Glastonbury, 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

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Chairman Cassano, Chairwoman McCarthy Vehey, Vice Chairman Needleman, Vice Chairwoman Goupil, Ranking Member Senator Hwang, Ranking Member Zullo, and Members of the Committee:

I urge your support for SB1024. The vastly broadened zoning opportunities provided by this bill will prove to be among the most positively transformative legislation this committee and the legislature can support and enact in this century. It will create much-needed more convenient, diverse, and affordable housing in our state while preserving our environmentally critical farmland and forest from destruction.

I live in beautiful town along the Connecticut River, a privilege I share with Chairman Cassano. The disparity of the privilege we enjoy as contrasted with those who have been disproportionately disadvantaged by the realities the pandemic has illuminated and heightened have been starkly brought to consciousness this past year.

Connecticut is fortunate to have real data and solid research to show that our zoning laws, and related sewage and other regulatory practices, have become roadblocks to the housing diversity and transportation efficiency and convenience that are necessary to build our economy. Desegregate Connecticut has enabled you, our elected representatives, and all of us to easily see and understand the effect of our current, dated zoning laws, and to show how the reform SB1024 will bring will have solid, lasting positive effect for all of us, but especially for those who have been more negatively impacted by pandemic and accumulated impact of social injustice.

The research and data put together by Desegregate Connecticut is groundbreaking. This research, together with action by this Committee and the Legislature, can make Connecticut a role model for transformative reforms that will have enduring impact on Connecticut's economy and greater equality for all of our citizens.

Please support SB 1024.

Thank you for opportunity to share my view with you.

Karen Gano  
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