

TOWN OF KILLINGLY

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Testimony

<u>SB 1024</u> An Act Concerning Zoning Authority, Certain Design Guidelines, Qualifications of Certain Land Use Officials and Certain Sewage Disposal Systems

Submitted by Kevin Kerttula, Vice Chairman Town Council

March 11, 2021

Dear Members of the Committee:

As a community leader I write in **OPPOSITION** to SB No. 1024. Connecticut's towns successfully use local zoning and planning processes to balance private property rights, community interests, demands on infrastructure, housing needs and economic development. Our commission members apply all these considerations to each application brought before them.

Public hearings are a vital aspect of community involvement. These enable neighbors and community members to provide input and suggestions to projects that directly impact their neighborhoods and community. To eliminate public hearings on such matters would strip the residents of their voice and can lead to unintended consequences of increased costs for infrastructure and property taxes. This would all be borne by the town residents.

I urge you to oppose this bill and other bills that would remove local authority over zoning regulations and process.