

To: CT General Assembly Planning & Development Committee

From: Kate Rozen/Woodbridge

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

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

I want to thank you for the opportunity to provide support for SB1024.

Overall I support the bill but there are two specific areas that I would like to highlight. Our planet desperately needs us to take less automobile trips. Allowing for denser zoning will create walkable communities we can all benefit from and more importantly, will give us a fighting chance at leaving a habitable planet for our children and grandchildren.

Additionally, the millennial and subsequent generations carry an outsized burden of student debt, preventing many from purchasing a home from the existing housing stock. Accessory dwelling units seem to align better with their values of being stewards of the planet, but also creates more flexibility in becoming a resident in a community that they might not otherwise be able to afford to own a home in.

Finally, I imagine that you will hear much consternation from certain homeowners in the state in regards to this piece of legislation. When given the chance to address the issue of income inequality and segregated housing, communities have unfortunately proven that they are incapable of making the change themselves. The vocal minority are holding the rest of us hostage. It is well beyond the time to remedy this situation and I believe that SB1024 would be a great start.

I strongly encourage you to pass this bill out of committee.

Thank you.

Kate Rozen
Woodbridge, CT