

To: CT General Assembly Planning & Development Committee

From: Ellen Thomson/Granby, 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

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

I am writing in support of SB1024. I think its passage would be good for Connecticut as a whole and for my town, as well.

Granby has very little housing diversity. Like many other suburbs and rural communities it's housing stock is almost entirely 1 family homes. I cherish the small town charm and abundance of open space in Granby, but we are developing new housing and that new housing stock should include affordable housing and more types of housing beyond single family homes.

I care about racial equity and hate that Connecticut is one of the most segregated states in the country. I do not cherish how homogeneous we are in Granby. We are missing out on so much culture. Our town would be improved by being more diverse and CT would be much better off being less segregated.

Lastly, caring about the environment, I support SB1024 because it would help steer development to where it makes the most sense. It would help stop sprawl and protect agriculture and open space. It will also help drive development to support small town center businesses,