

To the Committee members,

When our family relocated from the west coast to CT, we had a whirlwind week with a Realtor to find housing and were astonished by the price of homes and the lack of affordable housing in central Connecticut. The property tax burden, added to the ever increasing utility delivery charges can make it very difficult to recruit people to CT. At my company, we have had job vacancies for over a year and although we have interviewed several viable candidates, we were unable to convince them to relocate to CT from out of state and the housing and cost of living was a large deterrent that they shared with us.

Building on flood plains and farmland is not a sustainable solution, especially when there is underutilized infrastructure inventory in towns.

I urge you to pass this bill to allow towns to make common sense forward progress to meet housing needs, attract more people to Connecticut and protect the riparian habitat that will be increasingly important in the coming years.

Many thanks for your time,

~Cheryln Tunnicliffe

Portland.