

## TESTIMONY ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING

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First Selectman

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### Proposed Bill #6117

The Town of Ridgefield supports Proposed Bill #6117. Currently 8-30g is allowed in any zone, in any community, in Connecticut. Of course this assumes the availability of all necessary infrastructure. (Most importantly water and sewer.) Smart Growth is a priority especially in Ridgefield. We have applied several times for TOD grants and will continue to do so to promote development and affordable housing in and around transportation hubs. Such a hub exists in what is known as the Branchville part of Ridgefield. This area of Route 7 has both bus (HART) and rail (Danbury Branch Line) service. This particular area has been targeted by our Economic Development Commission for not only economic development but for affordable housing. Municipalities should be allowed to combine affordable housing with smart growth and have more flexibility in determining where this housing expansion should take place. As a community we recognize this very important housing need and certainly would like to see more affordable housing made available in Ridgefield but not in areas where there is no public transportation. 8-30g seems to contradict the smart growth concept.