State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL

REPRESENTATIVE FRED CAMILLO
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RANKING MEMBER
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COMMERCE COMMITTEE
INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Testimony

Affordable Housing Statutes

Housing Committee

February 5, 2015

Dear Senator Winfield, Rep. Butler, Sen. Hwang, Rep. Kupchick and members of the Housing Committee:

I would like to apologize for not being in attendance tonight at this hearing, but have prior commitments in my home district. I, as do my constituents, support wholeheartedly the proposed changes to 8-30g, specifically:

1) removing the 1990 date from when affordable housing units can be counted toward a town's total number. (Many towns have units that were built before 1990 and they are not allowed to count toward their total) and

2) adding to the allowable zoning restriction: wetlands, conservation and floodplain land. Currently public safety is the only allowed denial for towns zoning boards.

Moreover, if additional units need to be built to attempt to address the goal, then that pushes to a higher number, the total number of dwelling units in a municipality, thus ensuring the goal will never be attained. Thus, allowing units built prior to 1990 would be essential if we hold any hope of complying with state law.

Lastly, the issue is made even harder to deal with in Fairfield County, where the cost of land is much higher than the state average.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Fred Camillo

Fred Camillo
State Representative
151st District