

Electronic Testimony Against Governor's S.B. No. 19 An Act Establishing the Transit Corridor
Development Assistance Authority

March 3, 2016

Dear Members of the Planning and Development Committee,

As a resident of Newington, Connecticut, I am deeply concerned regarding the creation of a new state authority to organize and oversee the implementation of new urbanism strategies in cities and towns with rail infrastructure across the state. First and foremost, the very reason for establishing this agency raises alarms. According to one Council of Governments Director's testimony for the original bill, (hb6851), its formation arose due to the frustration of some, that the agenda to regionally urbanize some cities was not moving fast enough. This should raise alarms in the minds of board members. Home rule jurisdiction of zoning and planning remains in the hands of the municipality despite the frustration of any whom think their greater good is worthy of usurpation of that authority.

This bill is the brainchild of the new regional planning utopian mentality, Please review testimony from last year's hearings on the predecessor bill HB 6851, where 2 CROG representatives offered record testimony and falsely claimed that they were there representing over one million residents in support of the bill, at that time, which was long before the eminent domain language was removed. This should be all that is needed to understand the desperation of the regional planners, to seize as much autonomy from the local towns as possible.

I strongly oppose the creation of this state appointed authority.

Thank you for your consideration,

John Bachand
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