

Re Bill Numbers: (HB 6107, HB 6611, HB 6612, HB 6613, SB 1024, SB 1026, SB 1027)

Dear CT State Legislators:

I am vehemently opposed to the above noted bills for reasons stated below. This tangled web of bills has been spread out to many different committees, and this fact makes it very difficult for your constituents to keep track of them. I suspect that one reason for this is that they will be very unpopular bills because they imperil and infringe upon your constituents' individual property rights and their towns' local home rule and they hand these valuable and precious rights over to the state. In short, these bills comprise an elitist "we know better" public policy that will have systemic impacts on our communities and in all likelihood irreparably damage them.

These bills are attempting to urbanize our suburbs. They don't address social inequity, don't provide for homeownership, and don't provide for affordable housing. They do not provide any solutions for the urban problems that are plaguing the cities in our state. These bills prevent our zoning regulations from considering important qualities such as character and property values – and this will damage all towns in Connecticut. And these bills don't account for water quality, a vitally important point with regard to many of our towns in Ct., which supplies potable drinking water.

The greatest challenge for CT is increasing the vitality of our state by bringing back industry, new jobs and higher paying salaries through business friendly public policy. Transit oriented development should be focused on revitalizing all of our CITIES, where housing stock and adequate public transportation and infrastructure already exists.

Finally, here is the bottom line: Look at the stable and sturdy financial conditions of our towns and compare them with the perilous financial condition of our state which you want to empower with zoning control over our towns. Why on earth would any of your constituents want to turn our local zoning control over to the State of Connecticut? Any state legislator that votes to do this does not deserve reelection.

Anne Ahern