

To Whom It May Concern:

Connecticut's 169 towns and cities successfully use local zoning and planning processes to balance private property rights, the community's interests, demands on infrastructure, housing needs and economic growth.

I do not support Bills H.B. 6107, H.B. 6611, H.B. 6612, H.B. 6613, S.B. 1024 , S.B. 1026 and S.B. 1027. Zoning and all of the accompanying local decision making, public input, public hearings and other relevant information should be left to the Towns and their stakeholders. Towns in CT all have their own characteristics which is what makes them appealing to different types of people. Also, land is finite and unique, and what you do with it has implications and long-term consequences. State control should NEVER be allowed! Zoning is not a one-size-fits-all issue! Local control and local input enable neighbors and the local community to provide beneficial suggestions, to identify errors and maximize community buy-in on zoning proposals.

We need to ensure that lawmakers who were elected to be our voices in Hartford respect the notion of home rule and the accountability of local government. Local zoning decisions empower all of us (residents, taxpayers and local officials) to carefully tailor the needs of our communities and our unique geographies, economies and housing needs.

The proposal of these bills is a blatant case of government overreach. Their passage could very well lead to the destruction of the State. I can assure you, if they pass, my family and I will look for another state to call home immediately!

Vicki Morton

Greenwich, CT