

TO: Planning and Development Committee

**RE: comments for public hearing March 15, 2021**

*HB 6107, HB 6611, HB 6612, HB 6613, SB 1024, SB 1026, SB 1027*

I am Frank Pappalardo, and I have lived in Connecticut my entire life. I further own and operate a business in this state, am a registered voter in the town of Old Lyme and chairman to a town commission.

The concept of centralized government planning is contrary to the trust that state government must have in its residents. The thought that an overriding state zoning code can or should be imposed thus usurping local government control and codes is frightening. The Commission in which I serve as chair is a rather small jurisdiction, however has 3 separate zoning districts, including both residential and commercial zones. Keeping and attacking local business and public safety are key to our charter. In addition my jurisdiction has one of the several long island sound public access beaches in the that state. With a tremendous influx of summer visitor's, area management is also critical to our function. No state government uniform zoning code forced on this area could possibly take into account the nuances of area community dynamics, safety, housing, business, and community involvement. I can only imagine how a state forced zoning code would have a broad range of unintended detrimental consequences for this area. Local decision making is vital to self-government, government closest to the people is best, trust the local people.

Vote NO on all these bills that use coercion and force for towns to adopt state-wide uniform zoning codes.

Respectfully submitted

Frank Pappalardo

Old Lyme, CT