

## Planning & Development Committee Public Hearing

March 21, 2021 (Planning and Development Committee)

Subject: Bill Numbers *HB1068*

To: Honorable Co-Chairs Cassano and McCarthy-Vahey, Ranking Members Hwang and Zullo, and Esteemed Colleagues

From: Mary Ann Turner, Enfield CT 860-306-2023 – maryannturner@cox.net

I am writing in **opposition** to bill *HB1068* – as well as - *HB 6107, HB 6611, HB 6612, HB 6613, SB1024, SB1026, SB1027*

In the last few weeks I have taken the time to voice my concern regarding the legislation being proposed this session and ask you to realize how dreadful all of these bills will be to our fair State. SB 1068 – An Act concerning property taxes and affordable housing does nothing but to take CT much closer to the being the worst State in the nation. A Statewide property tax will prove to be nothing different than the current income tax. It will begin small and end up large – because CT has proven over and over – it doesn't have a revenue problem but spending problem.

As the chairman of the Economic Development Committee, a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals and a member of the Plan of Conservation and Development, I can speak from experience ... Enfield takes great pride in being an open community with reasonable zoning rules and a clear understanding of what is best for our town.

I am OPPOSED to legislative “arm grabs” mandating diverse housing types in our transit district, when Enfield’s local zoning rules are adequate and the as-of-right market value development puts preservation of historical homes at risk of being torn down and replaced by multi-family homes in the very district we are trying to protect.

The P&Z Commissioners take into account many aspects of building types and put conditions on projects for the betterment of Enfield. The onus on towns to secure funding to expand sewer and other infrastructure requirements makes the town take on the burden that should be handled by the builder. HB 6611

SB 1024 – is a grand over-reach. The removal of public hearings, the cluster of housing units per acre, elimination of height restrictions or setbacks, overcrowding of land, the potential to destroy historic and preservation lands, forced density development with little to no parking, removal of sidewalks and bike paths and safety concerns will be ignored – should make this a NO vote from all of you.

The fact that HB 6107 REMOVES Enfield’s own Zoning Commission to a designated – “working group” of 13 specific types of bureaucratic experts with no inclusion of representation of rural or suburban communities ...is ridiculous and frightening ... and that alone should cause you pause.

Who knows the Enfield better than the people who ACTUALLY LIVE IN ENFIELD – not anyone from Hartford. These are dangerous Bills and I strongly ask you to VOTE NO on all of them.