

Kim Healy
Wilton, CT

Dear esteemed Chairs and Members of the Planning and Development Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate bill 1068: An Act Concerning Property Taxes and Affordable Housing.

I am asking that you oppose this bill. I have previously testified on almost the same bill that was brought forth in the Finance Committee with the same request.

- Property tax is the single largest tax in our state.
- CT has the 2nd highest average property tax bills of any state in the country.
- Property taxes make up about 22% of the monthly payment for housing costs, assuming a 30 year mortgage.

This bill will only increase the drag on our state's already struggling economy.

Also, using property value to determine a person's ability to pay is a poor metric. I have been listening to various testimony on housing and zoning bills over the last few weeks and have heard that many of our residents are house rich but cash poor. To add another layer of burden on them will only create another reason (to add to the many) that is causing the net outmigration plaguing our state. Our residents are struggling to recover from the effects of the financial pressures caused by the pandemic. Please do not burden them with more taxes.

CT should aspire to be number one in many areas. Being the number one in tax burden should not be one them.

Let's get our fiscal house in order, do the hard work, break free from the ties to the special interest groups and make CT the best it can be. More taxes are never the answer.

Thank you, Kim Healy