

GET YOUR VOICE HEARD!

Housing Committee SB804 Submit Testimony

NOTE: The concerns are outlined in the SB 804 factsheet & "By Right" Talking Points.

SUBMIT WRITTEN TESTIMONY

We don't know if we will have any additional public hearing on this newly revised bill!

Submit written testimony, so it may be filed as part of the bill's public record. You have time to do so until the bill goes to the floor!

1. Put the testimony in either a Word document or PDF (not just the body of an email)
2. Include the bill number(SB 804):
3. Include your name, and your town
4. Attach the document to an email
5. Put the bill number(SB 804) in the Subject Line of the email as well

Email it to: Housing Committee: hsgtestimony@cga.ct.gov and also to ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSING COMMITTEE. LET THEM ALL HEAR FROM YOU DIRECTLY!

Send your email to: Brandon.McGee@cga.ct.gov; rick.lopes@cga.ct.gov; Joe.Polletta@cga.ct.gov; paul.cicarella@cga.ct.gov; frank.smith@cga.ct.gov; saud.anwar@cga.ct.gov; Minnie.Gonzalez@cga.ct.gov; Susan.Johnson@cga.ct.gov; Bobby.Sanchez@cga.ct.gov; Joe.delaCruz@cga.ct.gov; Anthony.DAmelio@housegop.ct.gov; Larry.Butler@cga.ct.gov; julie.kushner@cga.ct.gov; Winfield@senatedems.ct.gov; joe.zullo@housegop.ct.gov;

Suggestion for testimony:

Introduction:

- *Begin with " Chairmen Lopes and McGee, Ranking Members Cicarella and Polletta"*
- *Introduce yourself, your town and any relevant background that you may have.*
- *Indicate right away you oppose SB804, or are offering suggestions to improve it. Then explain your reasoning.*
- *Use the info provided on the SB804 Sheet and Talking Points on "BY RIGHT" or "AS OF RIGHT" Development*
- (In your own words...pls make the following the point...) One size does not fit all and locally elected leaders are the most accountable to the residents of the municipality and can decide zoning issues in a manner that allows planned development without adverse impacts to the local infrastructure, the environment or historical preservation.

Closing with call to action:

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify. Please Vote NO on SB804.

WHY WE MUST DO THIS! THE VOICE OF THE PUBLIC IS BEING SILENCED!

1. *The Housing Committee held a Public Hearing on the ORIGINAL SB 804, a dummy bill, a placeholder bill with no details, (with only 17 lines) on Feb. 18th. **How can someone truly testify at a public hearing on a bill with only 17 lines?***
2. *After the Feb 18th Public Hearing on the dummy version of the bill, the Committee voted to draft the bill on February 23.*
3. *The drafted, REVISED SB 804 bill (with 1484 lines) was just released March 8th.*

4. ***The CT Council of Municipalities (CCM) had a group on this, and the language is similar to what was discussed in January. (Luke Bronin, Mayor of Hartford is the Chair of CCM and Sara Bronin, Head of DesegregateCT is his wife.) In other words, the language was largely set well in advance of the hearing. It is disappointing that the language was not released to the public in advance of the hearing, so that the public could review and comment on what had been developed and would be proposed. THE PUBLIC HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO COMMENT ON THE NEWLY DRAFTED BILL IN A PUBLIC HEARING!***
5. *We do not have any information on future opportunities for public comment.*
6. *The bill would essentially eliminate local control over most accessory dwelling units and over most housing of 2+ units. The only areas for residential housing that would remain under local purview would be single-family homes (excluding an ADU), trailer parks, multifamily housing of more than four units where housing units are stacked above each other or above nonresidential uses, and institutional quarters. For instance, a single-family home in a historic district could be modified into a 2-4 family home, and the municipality would have no authority to influence the process (including preserving its historic appearance).*
7. ***This is a blatant deceptive maneuvering by the Housing Committee when the extensive concerning details of the proposals already existed from January and could not be discussed in the Public Hearing.***