Allen Sarvinas Topsham LD 2003

March 4, 2022

Allen Sarvinas, Topsham, ME 04086

Senator Joseph Baldacci, Co-chair Representative Ann Matlack, Co-chair

Members of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

Dear Senator Baldacci, Representative Matlack, and Members of the Joint Committee, Regarding LD 2003, An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Commission To Increase Housing Opportunities in Maine by Studying Zoning and Land Use Restrictions, I implore legislators to stop trying to fix their unintended consequences with more central planning which now includes egregious breaches of local sovereignty.

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The New England region is known for its Town Meeting governance due to its intimate relationship with pure democracy. Why are you violating this foundational intent of our way of life? This bill communicates to municipalities they are incompetent in their decision making and they shall obey legislators who prioritize their own and others needs over local citizens.

Legislators need to address systemic issues in the department of education that are leading to a stagnant, if not contracting, private sector of the economy which is the only way to produce real growth.

This bill Ought Not to Pass