

Submitter: Jennifer Constantine

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3499

I strongly oppose HB 3499 and I implore you to vote against it.

It has taken me four years of living here to even begin to understand how Urban Renewal works. In the beginning I wasn't sure how I "felt" about it. Through the process of reading, asking questions, and learning about it, I feel I have a better understanding. And yet, I still feel unqualified to make decisions on how and when to use the process most effectively, for the benefit of our communities. Thank goodness we elect people whose job it is to deeply understand the problems and solutions we are grappling with.

Please do not hamstring our elected officials from making decisions that will benefit all of us. Do not create a situation where big money (often from outside the community being affected) gets to decide for us. I fear this bill would not be taking these intricate decisions out of elected officials' hands and placing them into the citizens' hand--rather, this bill would place the decision into the hands of the most money. Please vote no on HB 3499.