



RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
Executive Department
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Legislative Testimony

To: Chair Raymond A. Hull
House Municipal Government & Housing Committee
From: Bob Cooper, Executive Secretary
Re: **21 House 5632 AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING
ORDINANCES**

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Introduced By Representative Ackerman

This act would require towns and cities to allow tiny homes to be used as accessory dwelling units and to be counted as affordable housing. The bill would also eliminate the expressed use of accessory dwelling unit "permitted as a reasonable accommodation" for family members with disabilities.

This act would take effect upon passage.

Legislation Committee finds this bill Harmful unless amended

The Commission would support the concept of tiny homes, especially for creating affordable space for people who are homeless, due to lack of resources.

BUT the bill is harmful to some people with disabilities unless the fair housing civil rights language on page 10 line 20 "permitted as a reasonable accommodation" is restored. That language connects this provision to the other zoning enabling act provisions regarding access ramps within the set-back provisions and other federal & state fair housing/disability rights laws and regulations.

cc: Representative Ackerman
Stephen Kavanagh, Legislative Affairs, Governor's Office