Chairman Abney and members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing to you today in support of House Bill 7493 that would increase the daily rate of payments to nursing facilities by twenty percent (20%) for single occupancy rooms to include private bathrooms.

Older adults deserve to live with dignity and privacy. Single occupancy rooms with a private bathroom would provide that for residents of nursing homes. During the pandemic we saw that congregate living led to the quick spreading of virus. Private rooms would help to stop the spread of infections. No older adults should be forced to live with a stranger if they do not want to. Single occupancy rooms need to be an option. Nursing homes should be incentivized to create more single occupancy rooms.

House Bill 7493 would do that.

Please support this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Daniel Liparini 30 Fletcher Road North Kingstown 02852