

**Neighbors
Welcome!**
Rhode Island



February 10, 2026

Honorable Marvin L. Abney, Chair
House Committee on Finance
Rhode Island State House
VIA EMAIL: HouseFinance@rilegislature.gov

RE: Support for H-7127 Budget Article 6 - \$120M Housing Bond

Dear Chairman Abney and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Neighbors Welcome! RI (Neighbors Welcome), I write in support of the proposed Housing Bond in Budget Article 6 of H-7127.

Neighbors Welcome remains committed to the vision that all Rhode Islanders live in safe, healthy, affordable homes in thriving communities across Rhode Island.

We are a grassroots network of neighbors advocating for more homes in Rhode Island. As you well know, our state needs many more homes of all different shapes, sizes, and price points in order to meet the needs of its residents and foster a thriving economy for all.

This proposed bond would be put to work increasing and preserving the availability of affordable and accessible housing to meet the needs of all Rhode Islanders and support community revitalization through the redevelopment of existing structures, new construction, property acquisition, and infrastructure improvements, with at least twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) allocated towards increasing production of housing intended for homeownership.

We respectfully urge this committee to consider increasing the bond amount by \$80 million for a total of a \$200 million affordable housing bond amount in the FY 2027 budget

Thank you for the opportunity to share our perspective for optimizing the production of much needed housing across Rhode Island in a way that responsibly integrates land-use, housing, transportation and conservation toward achieving vibrant, healthy places for all.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Flaherty".

John Flaherty
Organizer