

Chairman Casey and members of House Committee on Municipal Government and Housing:

My name is Helmut Reinhardt and I am writing to you today in support of bill number 7062, sponsored by Representative Speakman. I am a Driver Safety instructor, Marketing and Recruitment Specialist, and member of the Age-Friendly initiative all with AARP RI.

There are a number of reasons: First, ADU's will give families more flexibility-- family house with two elderly parents can remain on the property in a separate and smaller dwelling while one child can have the family house for their family. An ADU can be a smaller dwelling on the property for a caregiver/caretaker (one who can help elderly couples to remain in their home. An ADU can give an elderly couple income with unattached tenants in the smaller dwelling on the property.

North Providence, where I reside, has few lots left. So, with the option of ADU's, if the occupied lot is big enough, new construction can take place on the property. With the demographics shifting to an older population, ADU's can be beneficial for the older population. And families can stay together.

Besides, with housing costs skyrocketing, fewer and fewer younger people can offer even an apartment. ADU's can then help.

Thank you for listening.