



March 11, 2025

The Honorable Stephen Casey
Chair, House Committee on Municipal Government & Housing
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Opposition to House Bill H5691, *an Act Relating to State Affairs and Government – Rhode Island Housing Resources Act of 1998*

Dear Chair Casey, First Vice Chair Fogarty, Second Vice Chair Speakman and distinguished committee members:

Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (“RIHousing”) respectfully opposes House bill 5691, *Act Relating to State Affairs and Government – Rhode Island Housing Resources Act of 1998*. This bill would require a developer to submit a comprehensive assessment of a project to each municipality where the project shall be physically located.

The proposed comprehensive assessment “shall include quantified, measured estimates of the fiscal impact of the project on a municipality’s schools, transportation, public safety, water supply, wastewater systems, and environmental resources.” RIHousing is concerned that requiring this comprehensive assessment places an unnecessary, time-consuming, and costly layer of review at a time when we need to be finding ways to remove barriers to housing development. This assessment could significantly delay the permitting process and increase the cost of developing housing. We believe that the existing local permitting process is already designed to identify and address potential municipal impacts of proposed developments, therefore this additional layer of review is not needed.

For these reasons, we respectfully oppose H5691.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carol Ventura".

Carol Ventura
Executive Director