

Dawn Huntley

From: Allison Bannon <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 12:31 PM
To: House Municipal Government and Housing Committee
Subject: Yes to Townhomes and Mixed-use Zones

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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The Honorable Stephen Casey,

March 11, 2025

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

Re: Yes on Townhomes and Oversized Lot Splits (H5798 and H5799)

Dear Chairman Casey and Members of the House Committee on Municipal Government and Housing:

I am writing in support of two important housing bills, HB5798 that allows for more single-family townhomes to be built and HB5799 which allows oversized lots to be subdivided to match the surrounding housing.

According to 2025 YouGov polling data, 78% of Rhode Island residents believe that their community has too few homes that are affordable to buy or rent. Overpriced rentals put out by get landlord are choking the market and making it nearly impossible for lower income people to survive. Being able to buy a house, integral to the American Dream, is it off reach to so many.

H5708 will make it easier for families to buy a starter home and easier to downsize to 400 sq ft.

H5799 will empower property owners who own a double lot to make their own decision about whether to split the lot in two, creating new homebuilding opportunities while still requiring the resulting parcels to resemble the surrounding neighborhood. This measure will be particularly helpful seniors who are "land rich but cash poor," helping them to age in place.

I want to thank the bill sponsors, Rep. June Speakman, and Rep. Cherie Cruz, for their dedication to addressing the housing crisis in Rhode Island, and I respectfully ask the Committee to vote in support of these two important changes to zoning laws that will help create much needed housing in Rhode Island.

Respectfully,

Allison Bannon
Warwick, RI

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