

## **Dawn Huntley**

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**From:** Jimmy Dufurrena <jimmydufurrena@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 11, 2025 8:26 AM  
**To:** House Municipal Government and Housing Committee  
**Subject:** In SUPPORT of House Bill 5799 (Oversized Lot Subdivisions)

Dear Chair Stephen Casey and Honorable Members of the Committee,

My name is Jimmy Bailey Dufurrena, and I am a Survey Party Chief with around 5 years of experience in the surveying industry working on rail, housing developments, and vital infrastructure projects. Over the course of my career, I've worked on the ground performing fieldwork for mapping out property boundaries and navigating the complexities of local regulations. I'm writing today to voice my enthusiastic support for House Bill 5799, which would simplify the subdivision of oversized lots and help address Rhode Island's pressing housing shortage.

Under current local ordinances, splitting these lots is a cumbersome, time-consuming process riddled with excessive red tape. As someone working in the Land Surveying industry, I've seen how inconsistent rules and prolonged approval timelines create inefficiencies that stall housing projects. House Bill 5799 would cut through this bureaucracy, enabling faster, more practical subdivisions that make better use of our limited land resources.

With our state lagging near the bottom nationally for housing growth, we need solutions that work. Simplifying the subdivision process is a straightforward fix that would allow more homes to be built efficiently, easing the strain on our housing market and supporting Rhode Island's future.

I urge this committee to vote in favor of House Bill 5799. This bill is a practical step toward solving our housing challenges, and as someone who has spent years mapping the land we live on, I can attest to its potential to make a real difference.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Bailey Dufurrena  
Survey Party Chief  
Riverside, RI

## Dawn Huntley

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**From:** Jimmy Dufurrena <jimmydufurrena@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 11, 2025 8:27 AM  
**To:** House Municipal Government and Housing Committee  
**Subject:** In SUPPORT of House Bill 5798 (Attached Single Family Housing)

Dear Chair Stephen Casey and Honorable Members of the Committee,

My name is Jimmy Bailey Dufurrena, and I am a Survey Party Chief working on infrastructure projects in the region. My wife works in behavioral healthcare. Together, we hold essential jobs that contribute significantly to the state's economy and well-being. I am writing to urge your support for House Bill 5798, which would promote the development of attached single-family housing, such as townhomes. This legislation is critical for families like ours who want to stay in Rhode Island but are struggling to find affordable housing options that allow us to do so.

As a Survey Party Chief, I play a key role in building the infrastructure that keeps our state running — roads, bridges, and public works projects that support everyday life and economic growth. My wife works in behavioral healthcare, providing vital mental health support to individuals and families across our community. Our jobs are essential, not only to us but to the strength and stability of Rhode Island. We take pride in contributing to the state's economy and the quality of life for its residents.

Despite our hard work and dedication, finding affordable housing in Rhode Island has become a major challenge. We want to put down roots here and continue serving the communities that depend on us. However, the current housing market makes it difficult to see how we can stay long-term without more options. Townhomes, as supported by H5798, would offer us an affordable way to own a home. This isn't just about a house; it's about securing our future in the state we love.

Our struggle isn't unique — it's part of a larger housing crisis that affects working families across Rhode Island. When essential workers like us can't afford to live here, the state risks losing the people who keep its economy and communities strong. Affordable housing options, like those enabled by H5798, would allow us to stay close to the jobs and people we serve, ensuring Rhode Island remains a thriving place to live and work.

House Bill 5798 offers a common-sense solution. By encouraging the construction of townhomes, it would increase the supply of affordable housing, giving families like ours a real chance to stay in Rhode Island. I respectfully urge the committee to support this bill and help create a future where essential workers can afford to live in the state we help sustain.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Bailey Dufurrena  
Survey Party Chief  
Riverside, RI