

March 25, 2025

The Honorable Stephen M. Casey, Chair
House Municipal Government and Housing
Rhode Island House of Representatives
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: BILL NUMBER H-5702 – AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RETIREMENT OF
MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES**

Chair Casey and Honorable Committee Members,

On behalf of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns (RILCT), I am writing to express our strong support for House Bill 5702, which proposes increasing the number of days that a retired municipal employee may work within a calendar year without an interruption of pension benefits to ninety (90) days.

Municipalities across Rhode Island face increasing challenges in maintaining essential services, particularly in filling specialized or temporary positions. Retired municipal employees possess valuable institutional knowledge and expertise that can greatly benefit local governments in these situations. By allowing these individuals to work for up to 90 days without impacting their pension benefits, this legislation provides municipalities with greater flexibility to meet workforce demands while ensuring the continuity of vital public services.

Additionally, we would be supportive of further extending this threshold beyond 90 days should the sponsor determine it appropriate. Providing municipalities with increased flexibility in utilizing experienced retirees would help address ongoing workforce shortages and enhance local government operations.

The RILCT urges the committee and General Assembly to support this important legislation, which will strengthen the ability of Rhode Island's cities and towns to effectively serve their communities.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your continued commitment to supporting local government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. Rossi", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Randy R. Rossi
Executive Director

Cc: Honorable Members of House Municipal Government and Housing