

April 2, 2025

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

RE: H 5690 - Repeal of the Rhode Island Low and Moderate Income Housing Act

Dear Chairman Casey:

The Department of Housing writes to express its strong opposition to H 5690, which would repeal the Rhode Island Low and Moderate Income Housing Act in its entirety.

The Low and Moderate Income Housing Act is a vital component of our state's laws protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the most vulnerable Rhode Islanders. It is the basis of countless programs and legal protections promoting affordable, accessible, safe, and sanitary housing in our state. Especially in light of the ongoing housing affordability crisis, it is essential that we build upon and improve our laws on promoting housing equity and affordability, not repeal them.

The Department looks forward to working with the members of the committee and the entire legislature on efforts to further fair housing and improve housing affordability in our state.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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Sincerely,

Deborah J. Goddard Secretary of Housing

CC: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Municipal Government & Housing

The Honorable Representative Robert J. Quattrocchi

Lynne Urbani, Director of House Policy

Nicole McCarty, Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House