



Rhode Island Association of REALTORS® & State-Wide MLS

March 18, 2025

The Honorable Rep. Casey
Committee on House Municipal Gov. & Housing
82 Smith Street,
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

RE: AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME HOUSING

Dear Chairman and Committee Members:

The Rhode Island Association of REALTORS® fully supports H.5697, H.5956, & H.6067, which incentivize development and repurposing of properties. However, we strongly oppose H.5690, which would repeal this chapter.

As a lack of housing inventory and NIMBYism remain critical issues in local municipalities, it is imperative that we find solutions that benefit local residents and governments. Exempting cities and towns that exceed the low- and moderate-income housing threshold will incentivize local governments to accommodate more rentals and non-rentals, whether those units are produced by the local government or a developer. Further, RIAR recommends innovative solutions to repurpose properties, such as closed schools, to create more inventory, as it is efficient and cost effective. RIAR supports the studies to expand this program for municipalities.

However, the association opposes H.5690, because it would eliminate the requirements for all towns and cities to provide their fair share of low- and moderate-income housing. To resolve the housing crisis, increasing the housing supply for people of all income levels and stages of life is a must. This includes growing families, seniors who are downsizing, and others. Therefore, we ask this committee to oppose this legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trevor J. Chasse
Advocacy Manager
Rhode Island Association of REALTORS®