

Victoria Smith Breitbach  
Scituate, RI  
March 31, 2025

The Honorable Members of the House Municipal Government & Housing Committee  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Members of the House Municipal Government & Housing Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill H5690, which proposes the repeal of Chapter 45-53 of the General Laws, also known as the Rhode Island Low and Moderate Income Housing Act. As a concerned citizen, I believe this bill is essential for ensuring a more balanced and effective approach to housing development in our state.

The existing law, while well-intentioned, has placed undue burdens on municipalities and local communities, often prioritizing blanket housing quotas over thoughtful, community-driven planning. By repealing this legislation, we can pave the way for more flexible, locally tailored solutions to the housing crisis—solutions that prioritize smart growth, economic sustainability, and the unique character of our towns and cities.

Additionally, this repeal would allow for a reassessment of housing policies that better address affordability without compromising the rights of municipalities to determine land use in a way that aligns with the needs of Scituate. It is crucial that we encourage affordable housing initiatives that work in harmony with community infrastructure (especially for our wells, roads, environment and schools), local economies, and the overall quality of life for Rhode Islanders.

I have lived in this beautiful rural area for 43 years and I urge you to support the passage of H5690 and work toward alternative policies that promote affordable housing without the unintended consequences of overreaching mandates especially for towns like Scituate. Thank you for your time and consideration, and I look forward to seeing a more balanced approach to housing policy in Rhode Island.

Sincerely,

Victoria Smith Breitbach  
Scituate, Rhode Island