



STATE of RHODE ISLAND  
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GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES  
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## Legislative Impact Statement

To: Chairperson Stephen M. Casey

From: Elisabeth Hubbard, Executive Secretary

Re: 26 HOUSE 7228 HOUSE RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE CREATION OF A STATEWIDE WHOLE-HOME REPAIRS PROGRAM

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

The Governor's Commission on Disabilities' Legislation Committee has developed a Legislative Impact Statement on the bill listed below. The Commission would be pleased to present testimony to the committee. Please contact me (462-0110 or [elisabeth.hubbard@gcd.ri.gov](mailto:elisabeth.hubbard@gcd.ri.gov)) for additional information.

Introduced by Representative Handy

### **The Commission finds this bill beneficial.**

The Commission has its own grant program for housing, the Livable Homes Modification Grant. This grant pays for home modifications that are needed by a person to remain in their own home because of their disability. It covers things such as ramps, walk-in showers, lift systems, widening doorways, automatic lights and many other modifications that enable independence for the grantees. This program has been highly successful and steadily grown.

Our program however, does not pay for home repairs that would be covered by this proposed program. We have received inquiries for assistance for roof repair, heating system replacement and other home repair issues that are not disability-related and therefore not covered in the our grant. We would welcome a grant that could assist these individuals.

We support continuing the Legislative Commission so that the details and proper coordination between state agencies can be worked out. We testified before the Committee recently, and are excited for the potential of the grant as well as interagency collaboration. We look forward to working with the Legislative Commission to help facilitate this coordination and the positive outcome this grant will have on state residents.