



## **Written Testimony in Support of H 7150**

Submitted by the Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association

Before the House Committee on Municipal Government & Housing Committee

February 2, 2026

Chairperson and members of the Committee.

My name is Marc Bialek, and I am speaking today on behalf of the Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association (RINLA), which represents landscape contractors, nursery operators, and horticulture professionals across the state. Our almost 200 members are responsible for maintaining thousands of residential and commercial properties and play a direct role in protecting Rhode Island's environmental quality and public safety.

RINLA supports House Bill 7150 because it provides clarity, consistency, and practical guidance for how landscaping and horticultural work is regulated in Rhode Island. Our industry is committed to operating responsibly, complying with state standards, and ensuring that work is performed by trained and qualified individuals. H 7150 reinforces those goals by establishing clearer expectations for professional practice and supervision while preserving businesses' ability to operate efficiently.

This legislation strikes an important balance. It supports environmental and public health protections while recognizing the operational realities of seasonal, field-based work. Clear statutory language benefits both regulators and the regulated community by reducing uncertainty, improving compliance, and minimizing unintentional violations. Our members want to do the right thing, and this bill helps make that possible by providing clear rules rather than ambiguity.

RINLA also appreciates that H 7150 was developed with stakeholder input and reflects a practical understanding of how landscaping and nursery operations operate in practice. When legislation is crafted with industry participation, it results in better outcomes for workers, businesses, and the public.

For these reasons, the Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association urges the Committee to support H 7150 and move it forward favorably. We look forward to continuing to work with the General Assembly and state agencies to ensure that Rhode Island's

landscape and nursery industries remain both economically strong and environmentally responsible.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and I am happy to answer any questions.

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