

From: Cedric Ye <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2026 2:16 PM
To: House Municipal Government and Housing Committee
Subject: Please support H8005 (Parking Reform)

The Honorable Stephen Casey,

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

RE: Support for House Bill H8005 (Parking Reform)

Dear Chairman Casey and Members of the Committee:

My name is Cedric Ye, and I am a high school student who lives in Providence. I am writing today to urge you to support H8005, which would change parking requirements and provide flexibility that will allow more homes to be built.

Despite being old enough to pursue a driver's license, I do not plan to drive, as the \$12,000 annual cost of car ownership is incredibly burdensome and my ADHD would be a significant danger to others on the road. However, Rhode Island's parking minimums mean that I have to pay for parking regardless of whether I use it. Every parking space increases the cost of constructing a unit by \$25,000 to \$50,000, an enormous cost that can cause many housing projects, especially workforce housing, to become financially infeasible. The Parking Reform Network has found that eliminating parking minimums could reduce monthly rents by \$200 to \$500, at no cost to the municipality.

H8005 recognizes that parking minimums are unnecessary in places where people like me can choose to live car-free and have competitive alternatives to driving through public transit service. Communities do not need a "one size fits all" approach to parking; the market and property owners should decide how much parking is necessary based on the needs and characteristics of an individual neighborhood. In many ways, H8005 should go further; removing parking mandates entirely for specific units would reduce housing costs for more

Rhode Island communities and provide the flexibility for homeowners that is often the difference between building a home and leaving people unhoused.

Rhode Island's housing crisis is the worst in the nation, and our state's future depends on lowering housing costs so those who power our state -- like teachers, healthcare workers, service workers, and students -- can afford to live here. I urge you to please support H8005, a critically important initiative that would lower housing costs for hundreds of thousands of Rhode Islanders.

Thank you so much for your consideration,

Cedric Ye

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