

RE: HBs 7445, 8015 and 8036 Housing Options

To: Chairman Casey and members of the House Municipal Government and Housing Committee:

I am Daniel Liparini, a resident of North Kingstown, and I am writing in support of these three bills that can help address the availability and affordability of housing in Rhode Island. The affordability issue is pretty clear to young adults looking for their first home or apartment. Many young couples who are both working full-time at decent paying jobs are having a hard time finding affordable housing.

But an even more critical issue exists for older people who are on fixed (and usually lower incomes). They are struggling with higher energy and food costs and in many cases facing rising rents. As living costs increase, they are struggling to stay in the neighborhoods where they have lived for many years. Most times the only choice they have is to move to a less expensive, more rural area and leave their social connections behind. And that usually includes leaving behind health care providers they have worked with for years.

Our seniors need better options, whether it be ADU's or living with others in a shared dwelling or even smaller lower-priced single-family homes. These are important so they can choose how and where they live as they age.

Please support these bills to help address these issues.

Daniel Liparini