



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

March 31, 2026

RE: Support for H7491, Providence Housing Trust Fund

Dear Chairman Casey and Members of the Committee:

Neighbors Welcome! Rhode Island (“Neighbors Welcome”) is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit and network of neighbors advocating for more homes in Rhode Island. Our goal is to promote strong and sustainable housing production so that residents across the state, at every stage of life, have housing options that meet their needs.

We are writing in support of H7491 which would authorize the City of Providence to issue up to \$25 million in general obligation bonds to capitalize the Providence Housing Trust Fund in support of the development of much needed affordable, multi-family housing.

The Providence Housing Trust Fund has been a critical tool in allowing the City to address the housing needs of its residents and reduce financial barriers to developing affordable housing. The Trust Fund has proven effective in accelerating projects, unlocking hundreds of millions of dollars in private and federal investment. Funding has supported more than 1,600 affordable housing units, substantially increasing the Low- and Moderate- Income Housing supply. These units are desperately needed in Providence and continued investment is essential to sustain the momentum that Providence has built in addressing the housing challenges facing its residents.

Neighbors Welcome respectfully urges the Committee to support H7491, to capitalize the Providence Housing Trust Fund.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristina Brown", written in a cursive style.

Kristina Brown
Executive Director
Neighbors Welcome! Rhode Island