



**RHODE ISLAND LEAGUE
OF CITIES AND TOWNS**

*Distinctive Communities
Powerful Alliance*

March 31, 2026

The Honorable Stephen M. Casey, Chair
House Municipal Government and Housing
Rhode Island House of Representatives
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: HOUSE BILL 8142 – AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --
RESIDENTIAL REUSE INCENTIVE ACT**

Dear Chair Casey and Honorable Committee Members,

The Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns appreciates the sponsor for opening a constructive dialogue with the League and our member municipalities on House Bill 8142, the Residential Reuse Incentive Act.

The League recognizes the value and promise of a program that encourages adaptive reuse of existing structures, supports the creation of affordable and workforce housing, and contributes to revitalization in our urban and suburban communities. These objectives are consistent with the housing needs identified by many municipalities, particularly with respect to both mixed-income housing and housing opportunities for essential workers, including educators and healthcare professionals.

At the same time, our members are mindful of the practical implications of implementing a new state-managed incentive program. Municipalities have an interest in ensuring that projects supported under House Bill 8142 advance local planning priorities, align with municipal zoning and infrastructure capacities, and integrate smoothly with existing land use and development review processes. Aspects such as the scale of projects, labor compliance requirements, construction impacts, and coordination with local services highlight the importance of clear communication and coordinated implementation between the state and municipalities.

The League looks forward to continuing to work collaboratively with the sponsor, legislative leadership, subject matter experts, and our member municipalities to explore areas of refinement that will strengthen the legislation and help achieve shared goals. We believe this dialogue can improve program design, clarify expectations for all stakeholders, and support successful outcomes in communities across the state.

The League values this opportunity for ongoing engagement and stands ready to provide further input as House Bill 8142 progresses through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Randy R. Rossi
Executive Director

Cc: Honorable Members of House Municipal Government and Housing