

1 THE TOWN OF COVENTRY

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4 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

5
6 IN SUPPORT OF RHODE ISLAND HOUSE BILL 2026—7292 (LC004130)
7 AND REQUESTING INCLUSION FOR THE TOWN OF COVENTRY
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9 Resolution No. 2026-53
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11 WHEREAS, the Rhode Island General Assembly has introduced 2026 -- H 7292 (LC004130),
12 entitled "*An Act Relating to Towns and Cities — Rhode Island Comprehensive Planning and Land*
13 *Use Act — Comprehensive Permits Prohibited in Watershed Overlay Protection*"; and

14 WHEREAS, said legislation would amend the Rhode Island Comprehensive Planning and Land
15 Use Act to prohibit the issuance of comprehensive permits for low- and moderate-income housing
16 within watershed overlay protection districts in the Town of Tiverton; and

17 WHEREAS, watershed overlay protection districts are established to safeguard critical drinking
18 water resources, surface water systems, groundwater recharge areas, and environmentally sensitive
19 lands that are essential to public health, safety, and welfare; and

20 WHEREAS, the Town of Coventry contains significant watershed areas, aquifer recharge zones,
21 and environmentally sensitive lands that serve as critical components of regional and local drinking
22 water protection systems; and

23 WHEREAS, the protection of watershed resources is of paramount importance to the Town of
24 Coventry, particularly in balancing responsible development with long-term water quality,
25 environmental sustainability, and infrastructure planning; and

26 WHEREAS, the Town Council recognizes the necessity of preserving municipal authority to
27 restrict or prohibit high-density development within designated watershed protection areas where
28 such development may adversely impact water resources; and

29 WHEREAS, the Town of Coventry supports state policies that protect natural resources while
30 ensuring that municipalities retain the ability to implement locally appropriate land use controls
31 consistent with environmental conditions;

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Honorable Town Council that:

- 33 1. The Town of Coventry hereby expresses its support for 2026 -- H 7292 (LC004130),
34 recognizing its intent to prohibit comprehensive permit development within watershed
35 overlay protection districts to safeguard critical water resources.

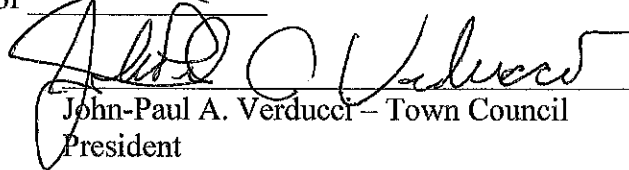
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2. The Town of Coventry respectfully requests that the Rhode Island General Assembly amend said legislation, or enact companion legislation, to extend the same protections and comprehensive permit restrictions to watershed overlay protection districts located within the Town of Coventry.


3. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Coventry Legislative Delegation, the Rhode Island House Committee on Municipal Government and Housing, and all appropriate state officials.

Passed or Denied on April 28, 2026 on a vote of

4-0


John-Paul A. Verducci – Town Council
President

Certification by Town Clerk:



Joanne P. Amitrano-Town Clerk