

1 THE TOWN OF COVENTRY

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4 RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

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6 IN SUPPORT OF RHODE ISLAND HOUSE BILL 2026—7297 (LC004126)
7 TIVERTON’S NEW CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS ACT AND REQUESTING
8 FOR IDENTICAL AUTHORIZATION FOR THE TOWN OF COVENTRY
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10 Resolution No. 2026-52

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12 WHEREAS, the Rhode Island General Assembly has introduced H 7297 (LC004126), “Tiverton’s
13 New Construction Projects Act”, which establishes defined timelines for municipal development
14 approvals, permitting, and housing unit accounting in the Town of Tiverton; and
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16 WHEREAS, the legislation provides for predictable and efficient development review processes,
17 including:

- 18 • time limits on preliminary and final approvals,
19 • time limits on issuance of building permits following final approval, and
20 • a structured framework for the temporary and permanent accounting of housing units during
21 construction; and

22 WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Coventry recognizes that similar delays,
23 uncertainty, and administrative inefficiencies in the development review process exist across
24 municipalities in Rhode Island, including Coventry; and
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26 WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that the framework established in H 7297 promotes
27 responsible planning, timely development, improved housing inventory tracking, and greater
28 predictability for both municipalities and applicants; and
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30 WHEREAS, the Town of Coventry supports the intent and policy objectives of H 7297 as
31 introduced for the Town of Tiverton; and
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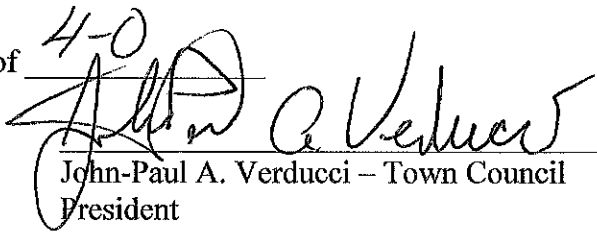
33 WHEREAS, the Town Council further finds that the benefits of H 7297 should not be limited to a
34 single municipality, but should be made available to all Rhode Island municipalities that elect to
35 adopt or be governed by similar provisions; and
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37 WHEREAS, the Town of Coventry has a substantial interest in ensuring efficient housing
38 production, transparent permitting timelines, and accurate housing inventory accounting consistent
39 with statewide planning objectives;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HONORABEL TOWN COUNCIL:

1. The Town Council hereby expresses its support for H 7297 (LC004126), "Tiverton's New Construction Projects Act," currently pending before the Rhode Island General Assembly.
2. The Town Council hereby requests that the Rhode Island General Assembly amend H 7297, or enact companion legislation, to extend identical or substantially similar provisions to the Town of Coventry, or to authorize Coventry and other municipalities to adopt such a framework by local acceptance or enabling ordinance.
3. The Town Council specifically requests that any such legislation include authority for the Town of Coventry to implement:
 - o defined timelines for preliminary and final development approvals,
 - o time limits for issuance of building permits following final approval, and
 - o a housing unit accounting framework consistent with the structure set forth in H 7297.
4. The Town Council authorizes and directs the Town Manager, Town Solicitor, and/or their designees to transmit this Resolution to the Rhode Island General Assembly, the Town's legislative delegation, and relevant House and Senate committees.
5. The Town Council further authorizes all necessary advocacy, testimony, correspondence,

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