

## Dawn Huntley

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**From:** Paul Harrison <paulharristeam@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 24, 2026 11:37 AM  
**To:** House Municipal Government and Housing Committee  
**Subject:** Support for H 8006

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Good Morning Ms. Huntley

I am writing in strong support of H 8006, which would allow up to four-story multifamily buildings with a single exit stairway. This is a practical reform that can help address Rhode Island's housing shortage by enabling more "missing middle" housing.

Single-stair design has been successfully implemented in cities like Seattle and New York City, as well as internationally. It offers several clear benefits.

First, it can improve affordability by reducing construction costs and allowing development on smaller, underutilized infill lots. Second, it supports more livable, family-sized housing, with better light and ventilation through point-access design. Third, it promotes "gentle density" by enabling smaller-scale projects that fit within existing neighborhood character.

Importantly, modern building materials and fire safety systems ensure these buildings perform as well as traditional two-stair designs, with strong safety records in jurisdictions where they are already allowed.

H 8006 is a low-cost, high-impact solution that will help expand housing options across Rhode Island. I respectfully urge the Committee to support its passage.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Paul Harrison

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