



David Dadekian  
Eat Drink RI LLC  
1061 Fish Hill Road  
Coventry, RI 02816

**Testimony in support of H 7095**

February 8, 2022

Members of the House Committee on Small Business:

I am the founder and president of Eat Drink RI, one of the top media, marketing and event production companies in the region for all things culinary. As an entrepreneur and resident of Rhode Island who wants to see our state's food and drink economy survive and expand to attract new business, I am in favor of passage of H 7095.

Placing a moratorium on the enforcement of municipal zoning for outdoor seating was vital to the survival of many in our restaurant and bar community during this pandemic. Being able to quickly set up outdoor seating areas was a huge benefit for meeting capacity needs for revenue. The pandemic highlighted why outdoor seating areas at restaurants and bars could be such crucial permanent parts of their venue.

As everyone in Rhode Island and across the country works so hard to try to bring our businesses back to life and try to return to some sense of normalcy, allowing this enforcement moratorium to continue for another year is a key piece of assistance to staying open for many of our restaurants and bars.

Respectfully, I urge you to pass H 7095 forward to the full House. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David S. Dadekian". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Dadekian