



January 29, 2026

The Honorable Susan R. Donovan, Chair
House Health and Human Services Committee
Rhode Island House of Representatives
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: BILL NUMBER H-7279 – EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL
LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS PERTAINING TO SERVICES AND
COORDINATION OF STATE PROGRAMS RELATING TO OLDER ADULT RHODE ISLANDERS**

Dear Chair Donovan and Honorable Committee Members,

On behalf of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, we respectfully submit this testimony in support of House Bill 7279, which would extend the reporting and expiration dates of the Special Legislative Commission to Study and Provide Recommendations Pertaining to Services and Coordination of State Programs Relating to Older Adult Rhode Islanders.

This subject is critically important to Rhode Island's 39 municipalities, which are often on the front lines of serving older adults through public safety, housing and land use decisions, transportation access, and coordination with state and nonprofit service providers. As Rhode Island's population continues to age, municipalities are increasingly affected by how effectively state programs are aligned and coordinated to meet the needs of older residents. We appreciate Representative Carson's hard work and diligence in advancing this issue and ensuring continued focus on the challenges facing older adult Rhode Islanders.

The work of the Special Legislative Commission remains complex and ongoing, and extending its timeline will allow for additional stakeholder engagement, deeper analysis, and more comprehensive recommendations. Providing the Commission with this additional time will strengthen its ability to develop practical and thoughtful solutions that recognize both state and municipal roles in serving older adults.

For these reasons, the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns respectfully urge passage of House Bill 7279.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

Randy R. Rossi
Executive Director

Cc: Honorable Members of House Health and Human Services Committee