

Letter of Support: S2031 (Property Tax Relief)

To: Chair DiPalma and Members of the Senate Finance Committee

From: Theresa Fogerty

Date: May 12, 2026

Subject: Support for S2031 – Expanding the "Circuit Breaker" Program

Dear Chair DiPalma and Committee Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for **S2031**, sponsored by Senator Ujifusa. This legislation provides essential relief to our state's most vulnerable residents by increasing eligibility for the Property Tax Relief ("Circuit Breaker") program.

The need for this bill is clear:

- **Rising Housing Costs:** Over the past few years, home prices and rents have surged across our state.
- **Fixed Income Gap:** Many older adults and people with disabilities rely primarily on Social Security. While housing costs and property taxes rise with home values, Social Security benefits rarely keep pace with the actual cost of living.
- **Targeted Relief:** S2031 offers a practical solution by raising the income eligibility limit to **\$50,000** and increasing the maximum credit to **\$850**.

This bill is a small but vital step in ensuring that those on fixed incomes can afford to remain in their homes and communities.

I respectfully urge the Senate Finance Committee to support **S2031**. Thank you for your time and your commitment to the residents of Rhode Island.

Sincerely,

Theresa Fogerty
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