

Jamie Plume

From: Susan Aitcheson <eg1295@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2026 11:29 AM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Support for S2681

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May 7, 2026

Honorable Louis DiPalma
Chair, House Committee on Finance
Rhode Island State House, 82 Smith Street, Providence RI 02903
Re: Support for S2681 – State Funded Rental Subsidy Program

Dear Chair DiPalma and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for S2681, which would establish a state-funded rental subsidy program in Rhode Island.

I am a co-founder of Women's Development Corporation, a RI affordable housing developer. I visited low-income families' homes since 1979 and saw for myself the unsafe and unsanitary conditions of many families' homes. It incentivized me to do more. We built over 2,000 units of housing but that is not enough – the need is still great. There are sources for building homes but not enough funding sources for providing the operating expenses needed to maintain the housing. These subsidy funds are multiplied many times over with the building funds that the State is providing. These funds close the affordability gap and are desperately needed.

Thank you for your commitment to the current needs of Rhode Islanders.

Sincerely
Susan Aitcheson

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Artist

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