



OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
PHILIP G. GOULD
333-1100
Email: pgould@lincolnri.org

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Support for House bill 7467 – Tourism Funding Allocation

Dear Senator Chairman DiPalma and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing in support of House Bill 7467, legislation relating to the distribution of hotel tax revenues generated through Rhode Island's regional tourism districts. The bill would remove the requirement that five percent (5%) of the hotel tax be directed to the Greater Providence-Warwick Convention and Visitors Bureau and instead allocate those funds to the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation.

As Town Administrator for the Town of Lincoln, I recognize the important role tourism and economic development play in supporting local communities throughout Rhode Island. Ensuring that tourism-related revenues are utilized in a manner that maximizes statewide economic benefit and supports coordinated development initiatives is critically important.

House Bill 7467 provides the State with additional flexibility in directing resources toward broader economic development priorities that can benefit municipalities across Rhode Island. Strategic investment through the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation has the potential to strengthen tourism promotion, business attraction, infrastructure improvements, and regional economic growth initiatives that positively impact local communities such as Lincoln.

The Town of Lincoln has consistently supported efforts that encourage economic growth, strengthen tourism opportunities, and promote responsible stewardship of public resources. We believe this legislation represents a reasonable approach to improving how tourism-related revenues are allocated and administered statewide.

Thank you for your consideration of this legislation and for your continued service to the residents of Rhode Island. I respectfully urge favorable consideration of House Bill 7467.

Sincerely,

Philip G. Gould
Town Administrator
Town of Lincoln