

From: jrstead2@verizon.net
To: [Sen. Acosta, Jonathon](#); [Sen. Bell, Samuel W.](#); [Sen. Bissailon, Jacob E.](#); [Sen. Britto, Robert](#); [Sen. Burke, John P.](#); [Sen. Ciccone III, Frank A.](#); [Sen. de la Cruz, Jessica](#); [Sen. DiMario, Alana](#); [Sen. DiPalma, Louis P.](#); [Sen. Euer, Dawn](#); [Sen. Felag, Jr., Walter S.](#); [Sen. Gallo, Hanna M.](#); [Sen. Gu, Victoria](#); [Sen. Kallman, Meghan E.](#); [Sen. LaMountain, Matthew L.](#); [Sen. Lauria, Pamela J.](#); [Sen. Lawson, Valarie J.](#); [Sen. Mack, Tiara T.](#); [Sen. McKenney, Mark P.](#); [Sen. Morgan, Elaine J.](#); [Sen. Murray, Melissa A.](#); [Sen. Paolino, Thomas J.](#); [Sen. Pearson, Ryan W.](#); [Sen. Quezada, Ana B.](#); [Sen. Raptakis, Leonidas P.](#); [Sen. Rogers, Gordon E.](#); [Sen. Sosnowski, V. Susan](#); [Sen. Tikoian, David P.](#); [Sen. Ujifusa, Linda L.](#); [Sen. Valverde, Bridget G.](#); [Sen. Zurier, Samuel](#); [Sen. Appollonio, Peter A. Jr.](#); [Sen. Dimitri, Andrew R.](#); [Sen. Patalano, Todd M.](#); [Sen. Thompson, Brian J.](#); [Sen. Urso, Lori](#); [Sen. Vargas, Lammis J.](#); [Senate Judiciary Committee](#); [S Legislation](#); [Senate Finance](#); gentreasurer@treasury.ri.gov; lbyrne@sos.ri.gov; ltgov@ltgov.ri.gov; ag@riag.ri.gov; smaldonado@sos.ri.gov; rrock@sos.ri.gov; fchybowski@sos.ri.gov; marias@sos.ri.gov; secretaryamore@sos.ri.gov; AmoOffice@mail.house.gov; mayor@providenceri.gov; governor@governor.ri.gov; desk@wpri.com; news@wjar.com
Subject: Support for S2275 — Strengthening Local Accountability and Improving Affordable Housing Inventory Accuracy
Date: Thursday, March 26, 2026 6:11:39 PM

To the Honorable Members of the Rhode Island Senate,

My name is James Stead, from Burrillville, Rhode Island to express my support for S2275, *An Act Relating to Towns and Cities — Low and Moderate Income Housing — Procedure for Approval of Construction*.

For clarity, S2275 is sponsored by:
Senators Rogers, Elaine Morgan, Patalano, Thompson, de la Cruz, Dimitri, Burke, Raptakis, Paolino, and Tikoian.

This bipartisan group reflects a broad recognition that Rhode Island's affordable housing process needs both transparency and practical adjustments. S2275 accomplishes this through two balanced, meaningful reforms:

1. Restoring written-findings requirements for local review boards

Requiring review boards to issue clear, written findings when denying a comprehensive permit ensures decisions are grounded in objective criteria. This restores a critical accountability measure that protects both applicants and municipalities.

2. Counting affordable units at the building-permit stage

Allowing municipalities to receive credit for affordable units once building permits are issued—rather than waiting for full completion—provides a more accurate and timely reflection of local progress toward the 10% threshold. This encourages cooperation, reduces unnecessary friction, and acknowledges real forward movement.

These changes do not weaken Rhode Island's commitment to expanding affordable housing. Instead, they strengthen the integrity of the process, improve predictability, and ensure that municipalities are recognized for measurable steps toward compliance.

I respectfully urge the Senate to advance S2275 and support a more transparent, fair, and functional housing approval system for all Rhode Islanders.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
James Stead
Burrillville, Rhode Island