

Senate Housing and Municipal Government Committee  
Rhode Island General Assembly  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
RE: Support S 2691 Low and Moderate Income Housing

March 25, 2026

Dear Chairman Bissaillon and Members of the Committee:

I respectfully urge the Committee to adopt S 2691. I commend the sponsor of this important legislation, Senator and the co-sponsors, Representatives McGaw, Fogarty, Edwards, Santucci, Quattrochi, Chippendale, Casimiro, Newberry and Roberts for their leadership in recognizing the need to reform Rhode Island's Low and Moderate Income (LMI) Housing Act to encourage more responsible housing development.

This bill provides **common sense amendments to accommodate low and moderate income housing without negatively impacting the quantity or quality of RI's precious and irreplaceable drinking water supplies**. The bill also adds important language that the **capacity** of public water or sewer systems be documented to support the proposed increase in housing density before a development can be approved. The current law only requires developers to cite that public water or sewer systems are available. It is irresponsible to build more housing in areas that would exceed the capacity of either drinking water or sewer systems to serve that development.

I am the Secretary of the Scituate Sustainability Committee. We are committed to sustainable use of all resources in the town and state and clean drinking water is one of the most important resources for all. This bill would allow sensible and sustainable water use now and for the future.

I support the need for more low and moderate income housing in RI. However, housing must be developed that doesn't pollute drinking water or over extend limited ground water drinking supplies. RI must have clean, safe and sustainable drinking water supplies to support existing and encourage future growth and economic development. The future prosperity of Rhode Island depends on it. I urge the committee to adopt this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment

Sincerely,

Greg Thuotte  
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Cc: President of the Senate Valarie J. Lawson  
Senate Majority Leader Frank A. Ciccone, III  
Senator Gordon Rodgers