

**From:** [Marianne Kelly](#)  
**To:** [SLegislation](#); [Sen. Dimitri](#), [Andrew R.](#)  
**Subject:** Support for House Bill No. 2904 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- JOINT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE SERVICES  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 8, 2026 2:13:48 PM

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SENATE BILL No. 2904 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- JOINT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE SERVICES {LC5035/1} (Advances the interests of older Rhode Islanders by adding a representative of an aging adult organization to the state planning council and a permanent committee on aging to the state planning council.)

Chairman Bissaillon and members of the Senate Housing and Municipal Government Committee,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill No. 2904, which strengthens representation and respect for older Rhode Islanders in state planning.

Rhode Island's population is aging rapidly. Over 24% of residents are age 60 or older, and by 2030, 1 in 4 Rhode Islanders will be 65 or older. It is essential that this growing population has a voice in the State Planning Council, which guides long-range development and policy across our state.

Senate Bill No. 2904 ensures that older adults are meaningfully represented by adding a member from an aging-focused organization and establishing a permanent committee on aging. It also strengthens coordination of long-term care policy for older adults and individuals with disabilities.

Importantly, the bill modernizes language in our laws—replacing outdated terms with respectful, person-centered language such as “older adults” and “persons with disabilities.”

This bill promotes inclusion, dignity, and thoughtful planning for Rhode Island's future. I respectfully urge you to support Senate Bill 2904. Thank you for your consideration.

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Sincerely,

Marianne Kelly  
Johnston, RI