

# TESTIMONY GUIDE

**Upcoming Meeting: Housing Bill Hearing**  
**House Committee on Municipal Gov't and Housing**  
March 11, 2025 "At the Rise"  
(Sometime after 4:30pm) ([Agenda](#))

## **Support for:**

House Bill [5798](#) (Attached Single Family Housing), and  
House Bill [5799](#) (Oversized Lot Subdivisions)

Please make sure to be as personal and unique as you can, tell your story of how Rhode Island's housing shortage affects you, a family member or someone you know, and why housing availability and affordability is vital to the overall community's well-being.

## **Written Testimony**

- Email to: [HouseMunicipalGovernmentandHousing@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseMunicipalGovernmentandHousing@rilegislature.gov)
- Deadline: 1:00pm March 11, 2025
- Subject Line: Indicate Support for Bill # 5798 | 5799 (separate letters for each)
- Address your letter to Chair Stephen Casey and Honorable Members of the Committee.
- It does not have to be long! Even one paragraph is helpful if it gets the point across.

## **In-Person Testimony**

- Room 101 (after entering front door, turn right at first corridor)
- Arrive by 4:30pm. Hearings can take multiple hours.
- Let us know if you are coming by texting 401-309-8707.
- Limit testimony to 2-3 minutes.

## **Top Message Points:**

- Attached Single-Family Housing (Townhomes)**
  - Makes it easier for families to buy a starter home, or seniors to downsize in their community
  - Offers a more affordable path to homeownership, without the complication of condo docs
  - Are significantly easier for builders to finance than condominiums
- Oversized Lot Subdivisions**
  - Double lots are common in many neighborhoods, but many local ordinances often prevent new homes from being built on the extra land.
  - Empowering local property owners to make their own decision about dividing a double lot will create new home opportunities. And the opportunity to sell the land will help more seniors to age in place