

Good Afternoon,

My name is Lisa A. Silveira and I am a Service Coordinator at the Arc of Blackstone Valley, located in Pawtucket, and a constituent of District 64 in East Providence. I acknowledge that you are hearing bill number HB 7063 and I would like to state that my viewpoint is for the passage of this bill. The Arc of Blackstone Valley is a non-profit agency that supports individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. As a Service Coordinator, I know that access to housing is an important concern for many of those on my caseload and their families. The majority of these families currently live in family homes that are equipped with ramps and or lifts, at their expense, to make their lives accessible. As family members and caregivers age or pass away, there are definite concerns that their family members will not have available accessible housing if or when they need to leave their family homes. The idea of Universal Design for housing opportunities would provide peace of mind to these families that their loved ones will be able to obtain housing that fulfills their physical needs on day one.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lisa A. Silveira

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