



February 6, 2024

The Honorable Stephen M. Casey
Chairman, House Municipal Government and Housing
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903

RE: House Bill Number: H7110 Relating to Taxation- Collection of Taxes Generally

Dear Chairman Casey and Honorable Committee Members,

I hope this message finds you well. I am following up with the Committee today regarding H7110, sponsored by Representative DeSimone. During the committee hearing I was asked to provide some background on how our organization came to support Representative DeSimone's legislation.

As an organization committed to advocating for our principles and advancing our legislative priorities, I want to shed some light on how we arrive at supporting specific bills or legislation.

1. **Alignment with Principles:** Each bill that comes our way undergoes a thorough examination to ensure it aligns with our organization's core principles. These principles serve as our guiding light, ensuring that any legislation we support upholds our values, such as not infringing on Cites & Towns management rights, among others.
2. **Comparison with 2024 Legislative Priorities:** Our legislative priorities for the year have been meticulously crafted and approved by the entire Board. These priorities reflect the issues and initiatives that we have deemed crucial for the advancement of our goals. Any proposed legislation is assessed against these priorities to gauge its relevance and potential impact.
3. **Consultation with the Legislative Committee:** Our Legislative Committee, comprised of members of our Executive Board, plays a pivotal role in evaluating proposed bills. They convene frequently to discuss the merits of each legislative proposal, considering its implications and feasibility within the broader context of our organizational objectives.
4. **Inclusion in Weekly Legislative Updates:** Transparency and member input are paramount in our decision-making process. That's why we ensure that all members receive weekly updates on legislative developments, including the positions we are considering or taking. This provides an additional opportunity for members to weigh in and offer valuable insights.

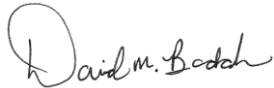
5. Discussion at Monthly Board Meetings: Finally, proposed bills are brought to the table during our monthly board meetings. Here, they are subject to comprehensive discussions, allowing board members to deliberate and vote on whether to support or oppose them based on the insights gathered from previous stages of review.

By following this robust process, we strive to ensure that our organization's stance on legislative matters is well-informed, principled, and representative of the collective interests of our members.

The League agrees with the overall intent of this legislation as a benefit for cities and towns. There were, however, some thoughtful questions and ideas brought out through your committee process. We look forward to reviewing any additional updates that the sponsor feels might address that input in pursuit of making this bill even better.

Thank you again for your service to the people of Rhode Island.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David M. Bodah". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "D".

David M. Bodah
Associate Director

Cc: House Municipal Government and Housing Committee Members
Ernie Almonte, Executive Director, RILCT