

SB 5100 Health and Safety State Building Code

Dear Chairman Casey and members of the House Municipal Government and Housing Committee,

I am Daniel Liparini, an AARP volunteer, and a long-time Rhode Island resident. I am writing in support of SB 5100.

Most people are aware of the rising population of homeless people in the United States. But not many are aware that, according to the US Department of Health, older people are the fastest growing demographic of those who are experiencing homelessness. And that fast growth is not due to the small number of homeless seniors. In fact, according to the Census Bureau, in 2023 there were 238,000 Americans over the age of 55 who experienced homelessness.

According to Crossroads, in Rhode Island the population of people older than 65 who experienced homelessness grew by 33%.

This bill would make it easier for municipalities to create shelter for our homeless citizens in time of need.

Please join me in supporting this bill and helping to house our citizens.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Daniel Liparini