

Dear Members of the Municipal Government and Housing Committee,

I am reaching out today to ask you to pass House Bill 5100 out of committee and on to the floor for a vote. As an East Providence resident and constituent of Jenni Furtado, I am particularly asking Matt Dawson and Jenni Furtado to support this bill.

This bill, if passed, would authorize cities to temporarily bypass building codes in a housing emergency to get housing units online faster. As you know Rhode Island is in a housing emergency and yet we have the innovative temporary shelters in Echo village sitting vacant due fire codes. Certainly fire safety is important. But at this point allowing people to freeze to death to adhere to very stringent fire codes does not make any sense.

Please pass this common sense bill to allow our state to open shelters faster.

Thank you,

Libby