



## OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET

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March 20, 2025

The Honorable Stephen M. Casey  
Chairperson  
House Committee on Municipal Government and Housing  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: H 5509 – An Act Relating to Health and Safety – State Building Code**

Dear Chairperson Casey:

Thank you for providing the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) within the Department of Administration (the "Department") the opportunity to submit comments in response to House Bill No. 5509. This bill would expand the use of e-permitting to additional categories of state and local permits. The bill would require the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) within OMB to assist the State Building Commissioner with the adoption and implementation of expanded e-permitting.

We respectfully request that references to ORR be omitted from the legislation, as the responsibility for e-permitting is no longer a function of ORR. Previously, the Department administered the State Building Code, and responsibility for e-permitting was assigned to ORR due to staff capacity constraints at that time. When the Department of Business Regulation (DBR) assumed oversight of the State Building Code as part of the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget, responsibility for e-permitting also moved to DBR. E-permitting is considered a key part of the building code initiative, which justifies continuing to place responsibility for e-permitting within DBR.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our comments on this legislation with the Committee. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Daniels  
Director, Office of Management and Budget

cc: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Municipal Government and Housing  
The Honorable Jason Knight  
Nicole McCarty, Chief Legal Counsel, Speaker's Office  
Dawn Huntley, House Committee Clerk