



Senior Agenda Coalition of RI
Bath Street
Providence, RI 02908

January 15, 2025

Dear Chair Fogarty and Members of the House Rules Committee,

RE: Support for H5010

The Senior Agenda Coalition of RI (SACRI) is an independent and diverse coalition of agency and individual members. Our mission is to mobilize people to implement an agenda that improves the quality of life of older Rhode Islanders and adults with disabilities.

SACRI supports the concept of requiring equity impact statements on a selected number of bills being considered by the House to try and determine whether the proposed legislation would increase or decrease inequities. We are pleased to see that both age and disability are among the categories that could be considered in requesting an equity impact statement.

Over the years SACRI has advocated for policies and laws that treat older adults and those with disabilities fairly and equitably. We have pointed out the existing inequity in determining eligibility for Medicaid as older persons and adults with disabilities have stricter income and asset limits than the state's other Medicaid populations. We have noted that racial/cultural and economic differences need to be considered in providing quality health care for older adults. And we are working to increase awareness of ageism and its negative impact on physical, emotional and financial health.

Thank you for your consideration of SACRI's support for amending the House Rules to include Equity Impact statements as detailed in the H5010.

Sincerely,
Carol Anne Costa, Executive Director Senior Agenda Coalition of RI

Submitted Electronically/ CC 1-15-25