

TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE

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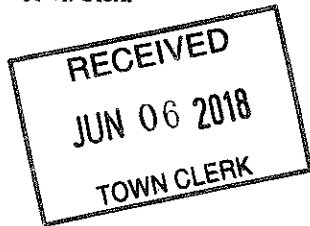
Office of Town Clerk

Louise R. Phaneuf
Town Clerk



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Burrillville Town Council Resolution Supported House Bill 2018 – H 7843 Relating to the State Building Code

- Whereas, Building permit fees are a subject of great concern to many of Rhode Island municipalities and the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns (the League); and
- Whereas, Three years ago, an act passed authorizing the State Building Code Commissioner to establish statewide building permit fees (while simultaneously removing the authority of city and town councils to set fees); and
- Whereas, Fees based upon population were computed by the state; and there was general consensus that basing the fees on population made no sense and had no statutory foundation; and
- Whereas, subsequently, the Building Code Commissioner, in collaboration with the Office of Regulatory Reform in the Department of Administration, computed a new preliminary fee schedule for each community using a cost-based methodology; and
- Whereas, Many building officials testified verbally or in writing in opposition to the fees and members of the League pointed out wide disparities in fees among communities and expressed concern with the data used for the cost-based methodology; and
- Whereas, the original proponents of a state schedule believed that some municipalities were using the fee schedule to generate revenue. There were also concerns that fees became disproportionately higher as the size of a project grew; and
- Whereas, House Bill 2018 – H 7843 would restore municipal fee setting rights while offering protections that the building industry desires and provide oversight to the State Building Code Commissioner in the event that any municipally adopted fee schedule violates the cost recovery or linear fee principles.
- Whereas, under the current schedule, we believes that some cities and towns would be required to increase their fees even though they may wish to keep fees low to encourage building activity. The Burrillville Town Council supports allowing municipalities to have lower fees if they so desire, and this legislation permits that choice.
- Whereas, The state-wide goal is to establish a steady and predictable fee schedule through local decision-making, while avoiding the complexities and shortcomings of a mandated statewide approach.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Town Council of the Town of Burrillville, do hereby support House Bill 2018 – H 7843, which strikes a balance in achieving the goals of the municipalities and the building industry; and hereby requests that our legislative delegation support passage of Bill H 7843.

Adopted as a resolution this 13th day of June 2018

ATTEST:

Louise R. Phaneuf, Town Clerk


John F. Pacheco, III, President
Burrillville Town Council