



# TOWN OF EXETER, RI

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**TOWN COUNCIL**

Diane Bampton Allen, President  
Raymond A. Morrissey, Jr., Vice President  
Calvin A. Ellis  
Jamie S. Schiffer  
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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
TOWN OF EXETER**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-02**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL S2275 HOUSE BILL H7447  
RELATING TO LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME HOUSING –  
COMPREHENSIVE PERMITS**

**WHEREAS:** The State of Rhode Island has established a goal that each city and town provide at least ten percent (10%) of its housing stock as low- and moderate-income housing; and

**WHEREAS:** Municipalities play a critical role in reviewing comprehensive permit applications to ensure that proposed developments are consistent with local land use policies, infrastructure capacity, environmental protections, and community character; and

**WHEREAS:** Prior state law enumerated certain findings allowing denial of a comprehensive permit application; and

**WHEREAS:** The absence of clearly enumerated reasons for denial undermines the integrity of the local review process and exposes municipalities to unnecessary litigation risk; and

**WHEREAS:** Senate Bill S2275 and House Bill H7447 would restore the enumerated findings for denying a comprehensive permit application, strengthening procedural fairness and clarity for applicants, residents, and reviewing courts; and

**WHEREAS:** Senate Bill S2275 and House Bill H7447 would further clarify that low- and moderate-income housing units shall be counted toward a municipality's ten percent (10%) affordable housing threshold at the time building permits for such units are granted, rather than at a later stage; and

**WHEREAS:** Counting affordable housing units upon issuance of building permits provides a more accurate, timely, and equitable reflection of a municipality's progress toward meeting the state's affordable housing goal; and

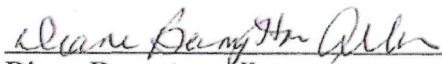
**WHEREAS:** Such clarification would provide certainty to municipalities and developers alike, encourage good-faith collaboration, and better align state policy with on-the-ground development realities;

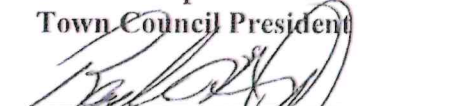
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Exeter Town Council hereby expresses its strong support for Senate Bill S2275 and House Bill H7447 currently pending before the Rhode Island General Assembly; and

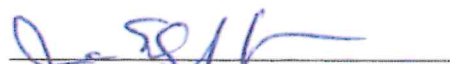
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Exeter Town Council urges the members of the Rhode Island Senate and House of Representatives to enact Senate Bill S2275 and House Bill H7447 into


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Town Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to Rhode Island Governor Daniel McKee, the President of the Rhode Island State Senate, the Speaker of the Rhode Island House of Representatives, the State Senator and Representatives of the Town of Exeter, and all City and Town Councils.

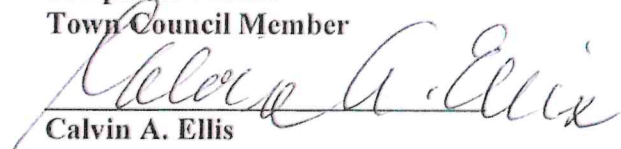
Approved by vote of the Exeter Town Council on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026.

  
Diane Bampton Allen  
Town Council President

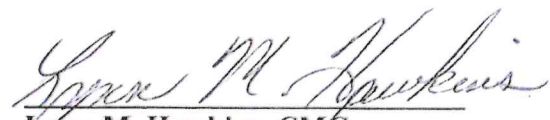
  
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Town Council Member

  
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Town Council Member

  
Calvin A. Ellis  
Town Council Member

IN WITNESS HEREOF, I hereby set my hand and the Official Seal of the Town of Exeter this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026.

  
Lynn M. Hawkins, CMC  
Exeter Town Clerk