RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF WARREN IN SUPPORT OF HOUSING DEVELOPMENT & LAND USE

WHEREAS, Housing continues to be a priority at all levels of government in Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, Municipal leaders stand together in welcoming the development of responsible housing in our communities and are interested in working with stakeholders across the state to improve housing opportunities for Rhode Islanders; and

WHEREAS, Local leaders agree zoning and land use should remain a local decision; and

WHEREAS, as members of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, we supported the establishment of both the Land-Use and Low- and Moderate-Income Housing study commissions to identify ways to help cities and towns meet their obligations under the Low- and Moderate-Income Housing Act to ensure that at least 10% of their housing stock qualifies as affordable; and

WHEREAS, there have been challenges with implementing changes to state law that were approved in the last legislative session; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Warren Town Council of the Town of Warren strongly encourages the state to work with cities and towns to encourage housing construction and rehabilitation, and remove barriers to housing, such as infrastructure improvements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to accomplish our housing goals, municipalities need the following:

- A clear menu of innovative solutions and funding opportunities from the state that can be implemented during the winter season.
- Increased funding for infrastructure improvements and remediation, outside of federal aid opportunities.
- To preserve and promote quality of life, based on the different communities' needs and respect the local voice in land use decisions.
- Funding the implementation of programs and systems to support process improvements.
- Increased technical support and adequate funding to departments and agencies that facilitate
 housing growth, including the Division of Statewide Planning and Department of Housing.
- Workforce development to expand the pool of municipal planners and building and zoning officials.
- Adequate state and education aid to support the needs of residents.
- A commitment to expanding reliable transportation opportunities for residents, extending the urban service boundary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, both Commissions ensure that they will listen to municipal leaders regarding these meaningful policy changes so they can be implemented and enforced at the local level; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Warren Town Council of the Town of Warren supports the housing and land use needs identified by the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns referenced above; and

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MEETING

Passed as a resolution of the Town of Warre, Warren Town Council this 14th day of March, 2023.

John W. Hanley, President Warren Town Council

ATTEST:

Sandrea J. Speroni, Jown Clerk

TOWN COUNCIL

MAR 2 9 2023

MEETING