

2023 -- H 5375

LC000577

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RHODE ISLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING  
AND LAND USE ACT

Introduced By: Representatives Cotter, Casimiro, and Fenton-Fung

Date Introduced: February 03, 2023

Referred To: House Municipal Government & Housing

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 45-22.2 of the General Laws entitled "Rhode Island Comprehensive  
2 Planning and Land Use Act" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **45-22.2-15. Statewide balanced housing.**

4 (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, comprehensive planning by  
5 municipal governments that promotes compact growth shall not be mandated in any area not  
6 currently able to support the housing expansion with the current infrastructure relative to drinking  
7 water and wastewater.

8 (b) No expansion of housing in any municipality shall be permitted without a prior  
9 determination in coordination with chapter 22.2 of title 45 that the expansion would be consistent  
10 with the municipality's comprehensive plan.

11 (c) Effective January 1, 2024, no general or public law amending any existing land use  
12 statute shall be effective without a comprehensive analysis prepared by the secretary of housing  
13 that addresses all issues relating to the housing crisis which analysis shall be made available to the  
14 town or city council prior to the adoption of any law that promotes compact growth.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- RHODE ISLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING  
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- 1           This act would provide that compact growth in municipalities cannot be mandatory and
- 2           would require that an analysis be conducted by the secretary of housing addressing all issues
- 3           relative to the housing crisis prior to any housing project promoting compact growth.
- 4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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