



Aquinnah Community Preservation Committee

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October 6, 2023

Representative Mark Cusack
Chairman, Committee on Revenue
Room 34, State House
Boston, MA 02133

Senator Susan Moran
Chairwoman, Committee on Revenue
Room 506, State House
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairman Cusack and Chairwoman Moran:

I write on behalf of the Aquinnah Community Preservation Committee in support of the following bills:

- H. 2747 offered by Rep. Mike Connolly, “An Act granting a local option for a real estate transfer fee to fund affordable housing”
- H. 2788 offered by Rep. Dylan Fernandes, “An Act empowering cities and towns to impose a mansion fee to support affordable housing”
- S. 1771 offered by Sen. Joanne Comerford, “An Act granting a local option for a real estate transfer fee to fund affordable housing”

In 2022, Aquinnah voters, along with voters from the 5 other Island Towns, overwhelmingly approved a bill for an Island-wide Housing Bank, to be funded by a transfer fee. Please advance these bills to enable us to realize this mandate for preserving our year-round community. It will allow a regional authority to create affordable options, to repurpose existing housing stock, spur new year-round housing for rent or purchase, and provide tools such as deed restrictions in order to preserve existing inventory. As you know, the transfer fee option is **only** for those communities who choose to use this tool; it is not a statewide mandate and can be tailored to a community’s needs.

We urge your quick support for these bills and ask you to send them to the floor for consideration.

Onward!

Derrill Bazy,

Chair, Aquinnah Community Preservation Committee