

2026 -- H 8040 SUBSTITUTE A

LC005798/SUB A

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- ZONING ORDINANCES

Introduced By: Representatives Speakman, Edwards, Giraldo, and Cruz

Date Introduced: February 27, 2026

Referred To: House Municipal Government & Housing

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 45-24 of the General Laws entitled "Zoning Ordinances" is hereby  
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **45-24-33.1. NARR-certified recovery residences.**

4 (a) For purposes of this section, a NARR-certified recovery residence means a residential  
5 structure, properly zoned according to a town or city's zoning ordinance, that provides recovery  
6 support services for those people recovering from substance abuse addiction and that complies with  
7 standards established by the National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR).

8 (b) Except as otherwise provided within the general laws or applicable local zoning  
9 ordinances, any law, regulation or ordinance regulating the zoning and use of a residential NARR-  
10 certified recovery residence:

11 (1) Shall treat a NARR-certified recovery residence as a residential use of property which  
12 shall have all the rights and responsibilities afforded to a residential use of property.

13 (2) Shall not subject the NARR-certified recovery residence to any restrictions,  
14 prohibitions, or other provisions, including provisions related to the state building or fire codes,  
15 that are not applicable to residential uses in similar types of structures in the same zoning district  
16 if occupied by a household, as defined in § 45-24-31(37)(ii).

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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1           This act would prohibit any city or town from enacting any zoning ordinance that would  
2 place restrictions on residential NARR-certified recovery residences that are not applicable to other  
3 residential homes.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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