



April 28, 2026

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr., Chairman  
House Corporations Committee  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903

Re: H.8324, An Act Relating to Uniform Commercial Code – Secured Transactions

Dear Chairman Solomon,

The undersigned members of the Rhode Island Business Coalition are writing to express support for House Bill 8324 which looks to address business identity thefts and scams. We thank Representative Shallcross Smith for introducing this legislation on behalf of Secretary of State Amore.

As entity formations have increased over the past several years, so have the actions of bad actors looking to take advantage of Rhode Islanders looking to establish businesses and comply with the business entity laws. The Secretary of State's Office has seen an increasing number of scams attempting to charge people more money than is required to file their annual reports. In addition, scammers are establishing fraudulent business entities that may impact people's credit worthiness.

House Bill 8324 provides the Business Services Division with the tools needed to better prevent these scam artists from creating fraudulent entities and to hold them accountable should they manage to create fake entities. The bill also requires clear messaging in large font that solicitations are marketing pieces and do not represent a formal communication from a government source.

Providing the Secretary of State's Office with stronger tools to determine if filings are false and better enabling them to remove them from the public records, limits the legal and financial impact on victims of these fraud attempts.

For the reasons stated above, we ask the Committee to support passage of House Bill 8324.

Sincerely,

David Chenevert, Chairman, Rhode Island Business Coalition  
Associated Builders and Contractors – Rhode Island Chapter

The Rhode Island Business Coalition represents 50 industries and 6,280 businesses that employ 231,200 people throughout Rhode Island.

East Greenwich Chamber of Commerce

Greater Newport Chamber of Commerce

Rhode Island Bankers Association

Rhode Island Small Business Economic Summit Regulations Committee

Rhode Island Small Business Economic Summit Tax and Budget Committee

Rhode Island Staffing Association

cc. The Honorable Gregg Amore  
The Honorable Mary Ann Shallcross Smith  
House Corporations Committee members