



AMERICAN COALITION FOR
TAXPAYER RIGHTS

Delivered Via Email: HouseCorporations@rilegislature.gov

May 5, 2026

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.
Chairman, House Committee on Corporations
State House, Room 230A
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

The Honorable Alex D. Marszalkowski
Deputy Majority Leader
State House, Room 230A
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chairman Solomon and Deputy Leader Marszalkowski:

On behalf of the American Coalition for Taxpayer Rights (ACTR)¹ – the national trade association for America’s leading retail tax preparers and do-it-yourself tax software companies and the financial institutions that provide millions of tax-time financial products chosen by taxpayers each year – I am writing today to express ACTR’s strong support for Rhode Island House Bill 7613, as amended (HB 7613 Sub A/3), that was introduced by Rep. Marszalkowski.

As you may know, ACTR members have partnered with the Federation of Tax Administrators and the Internal Revenue Service for more than a decade to combat identify theft tax refund fraud, and to protect honest, law-abiding taxpayers throughout the

¹ ACTR Tax Preparation/Tax Software Companies are H&R Block, Intuit, Jackson Hewitt, Liberty Tax, OnLine Taxes, TaxHawk, TaxSlayer, Taxwell, and Wolters Kluwer Tax. ACTR Financial Services Settlement Companies are Pathward, Republic Bank & Trust, and the Tax Products Group/Green Dot.

country. We believe that HB 7613, as amended, will provide the State of Rhode Island with additional tools to combat and root out harmful and predatory tax preparers, including those who seek to commit fraud.

Among other things, this important legislation would expand enforcement provisions by:

- Stating that a tax return preparer shall not be a “ghost preparer” or engage in any activity with the intent to facilitate the use of a ghost preparer. “Ghost preparer” means a tax return preparer who does not self-identify on returns they prepare or does not comply with the PTIN requirements in 26 U.S.C. § 6109 and Treasury Regulation 26 C.F.R. § 1.6109-2, and is compensated for or otherwise benefits from the preparation of returns.
- Providing for penalties for tax preparers that mislead their clients or act as ghost preparers of tax returns.
- Authorizing the state tax administrator to publish a list of tax preparers who have had their privileges to prepare returns revoked or suspended.

ACTR believes these common-sense proposals are appropriate and necessary in the interest of protecting Rhode Island taxpayers, and we hope our strong support assists in securing their enactment. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



David D. Ransom
ACTR Counsel

cc: Neena Savage, Tax Administrator, Rhode Island Division of Taxation
George Agurkis, ACTR Chair