

Rhode Island Atheists



Honorable Marvin L. Abney, Chair
House Committee on Finance

Rhode Island Atheists calls upon legislators to support the building of a state history center. Access to our rich history is the right of all Ocean State residents, it's important to everyone. But history also has a significant meaning to our organization, our members and nonbelievers everywhere.

History plays a key role in understanding how beliefs develop. Most non-theists see religion as human creations shaped by culture, politics, psychology and social needs. History helps explain how religions develop and how rituals and morality have evolved through time.

Many atheists share the view that humans drive change rather than divine or supernatural forces. History illustrates advancements in civil rights, developments in science and society's shifts on ethics. As such, history becomes more than just a building full of preserved documents, it becomes a powerful story of human learning, experimentation, and adaptation.

Finally, as an atheist nonprofit organization fighting for separation of church & state and religious freedom in the state founded by Roger Williams, history is vital to Rhode Island Atheists' core message. Thank you for your time.

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