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April 8, 2026

The Honorable Marvin Abney
House Finance Committee
State House
Providence, RI 02906

Dear Chairman Abney and Committee Members:

The Northern RI Chamber of Commerce (NRICC) represents businesses in the communities of Burrillville, Central Falls, Cumberland, Foster, Glocester, Johnston, Lincoln, North Providence, North Smithfield, Pawtucket, Scituate, Smithfield and Woonsocket. I write to express the Chamber's strong support for H.7810, An Act Relating to Taxation – State Tax Officials.

H.7810 limits the interest rate on trust delinquent tax payments to twelve percent. While twelve percent is still high compared to many other states, the Chamber believes this is a step in the right direction to help protect businesses from excessively punitive financial burdens while still ensuring accountability. Capping the interest rate helps prevent obligations from compounding to unsustainable levels.

Equally important are the provisions establishing clear and reasonable audit deadlines. By setting a three-year limit for standard filings, a seven-year limit for fraudulent filings, and an absolute maximum of ten years from the original or required filing date, the bill provides much-needed certainty for businesses. These timeframes align with common practices and ensure that employers are not subject to indefinite or excessively prolonged audit exposure. Predictable audit windows enable businesses to better manage records, plan for the future, and operate without the ongoing uncertainty that can hinder investment and growth. For many employers—particularly small and mid-sized businesses—unexpected tax liabilities can already present significant challenges.

Together, these provisions create a more equitable and transparent tax environment, fostering greater confidence among employers and encouraging continued economic activity in the state. A tax system that is fair, predictable, and administratively reasonable is essential to supporting a strong and competitive business climate.

For these reasons, the Northern RI Chamber supports the passage of H.7810.

Respectfully,

Monika P. Zuluaga
President & CEO