



CITY OF CENTRAL FALLS
MAYOR MARIA RIVERA

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May 19, 2026

The Honorable Marvin Abney
Chair, House Committee on Finance
Rhode Island House of Representatives
82 Smith Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Re: Support for H8506 — Relating to Central Falls Pension Plan

Dear Chair Abney and Honorable Members of the House Committee on Finance,

On behalf of the City of Central Falls, I write in strong support of H8506, legislation that would amend R.I. Gen. Laws § 45-21.4-2 relating to the Central Falls Pension Plan and provide fairer pension treatment for active Central Falls police officers and firefighters.

The City of Central Falls depends every day on the dedicated service of its police officers and firefighters. These men and women protect the public safety, health, and welfare of our residents, and they have continued to serve this community through significant financial and institutional transition. H8506 recognizes that service and updates the applicable pension framework in a responsible and negotiated manner.

This legislation is consistent with police and fire collective bargaining agreements negotiated by my administration and approved by the Central Falls City Council. Specifically, H8506 would provide that, on and after July 1, 2026, active members of the Central Falls Pension Plan would be subject to the pension plan provisions set forth in the respective collective bargaining agreements in effect on July 1, 2026.

I support this legislation because it provides a fair, current, and locally supported approach for active public safety employees who have remained committed to the City. H8506 respects the collective bargaining process, reflects the City's approved agreements with its police and fire unions, and appropriately modernizes the statutory treatment of these active members. I am also attaching a City Council Resolution in support of this legislation which passed unanimously.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Maria Rivera
Mayor

Cc: Honorable Members of the House Finance Committee

Enclosure