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## **ACLU OF RI POSITION: SUPPORT**

### **TESTIMONY ON 24-H 7158, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT January 25, 2024**

With the rapid proliferation of artificial intelligence technologies and systems across all industries, it only makes sense that the application of AI in government should be subject to stringent transparency and vetting requirements. For these reasons we are supportive of and appreciate the intent of this legislation, which serves to create a regulatory structure for the use of AI in government agencies and aims to achieve transparency in such use.

In particular, we note our support for provisions in this bill which would require that AI be appropriately ensured to have no discriminatory results, nor any unlawful disparate impact based on a protected characteristic. Because one of the more concerning aspects of AI technology and systems is the way that its formulations may perpetuate dangerous and discriminatory patterns, we believe such a protection is critical to guarantee that the impact of any AI use is truly neutral and does not exacerbate any existing disparities.

Technology has been routinely outpacing the government's ability to regulate it, with increasingly serious impacts on the rights of individuals. For these reasons, we support this bill which seeks to get ahead of the curve and provide a proper legal framework for AI use. Thank you for your consideration.