



RHODE ISLAND BROTHERHOOD OF CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS

"Representing Those Who Work the Toughest Beat in the State"

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Honorable Members
Rhode Island House Judiciary

Dear Representative:

I am writing to express the Rhode Island Brotherhood of Correctional Officers strong opposition for bill H-7966, this bill would allow and implement conjugal visits at the ACI.

As of 1995, 17 states provided for conjugal visits. Today only four states still allow them. California, New York, Connecticut and Washington. Mississippi and New Mexico stopped allowing visits as of 2014.

This legislation would prove extremely problematic and costly. Currently the Rhode Island Department of Corrections has the ability to provide inmates with social furloughs with immediate family members or other persons who have developed regular visitation patterns with the inmate. RI DOC policy 20.01 and RI General Laws 42-56-18 provide inmates access to social furloughs and is supported by the Correctional Officer staff if managed correctly.

It is with these facts in mind that the Rhode Island Brotherhood of Corrections respectfully requests that this committee reject this legislation.

Sincerely,

Richard Ferruccio

President, RIBCO