



RHODE ISLAND SUPREME COURT

Office of General Counsel

Licht Judicial Complex

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March 11, 2025

Via Electronic Mail (HouseJudiciary@rilegislature.gov)

The Honorable Robert E. Craven

House Judiciary Committee

Rhode Island State House

House Lounge

Providence, RI 02903

Re: House Bill #5896: An Act Relating to Motor and Other Vehicles - Motor Vehicle Offenses

Dear Chairman Craven:

I write on behalf of the Rhode Island Judiciary and the Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal (RITT) to express our support for House Bill #5896, scheduled to be heard this evening before the House Judiciary Committee. If enacted, this bill would amend R.I. Gen Law §§ 31-27-2.8, to clarify that a hearing is required before a judge or magistrate may adjudge a motorist in contempt for failure to comply with the court's orders regarding a conditional hardship license.

This bill also establishes penalties for violating the conditions of a hardship/interlock order, including revoking, modifying or amending the conditional hardship license or ignition interlock order, extending the time period for the ignition interlock system for an additional twelve (12) months, and/or imposing an additional loss of license for up to twenty-four (24) months.

Thank you for the opportunity to express the Judiciary's support for this bill. I am always available should you have any questions or wish to discuss further.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Kelly

General Counsel

Rhode Island Supreme Court