



State of Rhode Island

**Department of State | Office of the Secretary of State**

**Gregg M. Amore, Secretary of State**

January 29, 2026

Honorable Carol H. McEntee, Chair  
House Committee on Judiciary

RE: H7080 - An Act Relating to Commercial Law – General Regulatory Provisions – Third-Party Litigation Financing Consumer Protection Act

Dear Chair McEntee,

I write this letter with recommended suggestions for House Bill 7080, legislation that regulates the practices of third-party litigation financers in Rhode Island and requires litigation financers to register with the Department of State or the Department of Business Regulation.

The Department of State's Business Services Division maintains Rhode Island's business registry, which records new business formations and the ongoing business registration activity of the more than 109,000 active entities registered in our state. The Division also provides thoughtful guidance and comprehensive services to those looking to start and maintain a business or non-profit in Rhode Island. The Department of State does not issue licenses permitting any business activity.

The Department of Business Regulation (DBR) oversees state-chartered financial institutions, credit unions, and other related licenses within its banking division. Additionally, DBR has a multi-state licensing platform that makes it easy for businesses to obtain licensing with their office.

We recommend that litigation financers be required to follow the same path for business registration and subsequent licensing as all other businesses. Litigation financers operating in Rhode Island should be in compliance with existing statute and register the business entity with our office, and the additional licensing required to conduct their particular business activity should be handled, as it is with all other industries, by another state agency tasked with regulating and licensing such activity. In this case, DBR is the ideal agency to handle such licensing.

I urge the members of the Committee to consider our abovementioned concerns and suggestions regarding House Bill 7080. Our office has been in communication with DBR, and they support this letter. Nevertheless, the Department of State is happy to work with DBR and the bill sponsor to improve this process.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michelle Arias, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, at [marias@sos.ri.gov](mailto:marias@sos.ri.gov).

Sincerely,

Gregg M. Amore  
Secretary of State

cc: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Judiciary  
The Honorable Alex Finkelman