



Supreme Court
Office of General Counsel

Licht Judicial Complex
250 Benefit Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

February 26, 2026

Via Electronic Mail (HouseJudiciary@rilegislature.gov)

Chair Carol Hagan McEntee
House Committee on Judiciary
Rhode Island State House
House Lounge
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

RE: House Bill #7642: An Act Relating to Courts and Civil Procedure – Procedure Generally – District Court Practice

Dear Chair Hagan McEntee:

I write on behalf of the Rhode Island Judiciary and the Rhode Island District Court to express our support for House Bill #7642, scheduled to be heard this evening before the House Committee on Judiciary. If enacted, this bill would amend R.I. Gen Laws §§ 9-2-10 and 9-2-10.1 to establish a set filing fee for appeals from the District Court to the Superior Court.

Currently, filing fees vary and must be individually calculated for each appeal; as such, attorneys and self-represented litigants must come to the courthouse to ascertain the applicable fee. Passage of this legislation will reduce the workload of court clerks, who manually calculate the filing fee, and ease the burden on those seeking to appeal. This legislation would simplify the appeal filing process for attorneys and self-represented litigants as they would be able to submit an appeal electronically, which would eliminate the need to come to the courthouse. Further, this legislation clarifies that a party seeking an appeal in an action brought under the Residential Landlord and Tenant Act has five days to claim an appeal, which is inclusive of Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays.

Thank you for the opportunity to express the Judiciary's support for this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to express the Judiciary's support for this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. Wyrzykowski".

Chrisanne Wyrzykowski
General Counsel