



Supreme Court  
Office of General Counsel

February 26, 2026

Licht Judicial Complex  
250 Benefit Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

*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 #7644: An Act Relating to Courts and Civil Procedure – Procedure Generally – Fees**

Dear Chair Carol Hagan McEntee:

I write on behalf of the Rhode Island Judiciary to express support for House Bill #7644, scheduled to be heard this evening before the House Committee on Judiciary. If enacted, this bill would amend R.I. Gen Laws §§ 9-29-1, 9-29-18 and 9-29-19 by minimally increasing fees in the Superior Court, District Court, and Family Court and would increase the sum forwarded to Rhode Island Legal Services.

At present, R.I. Gen Laws §§ 9-29-1, 9-29-18 and 9-29-19 forwards a portion of the fees collected pursuant to these statutes to Rhode Island Legal Services, which provides legal assistance and representation to low-income individuals and other eligible client groups in Rhode Island. The sums provided to Rhode Island Legal Services through these statutes is currently limited to five (\$5) to ten (\$10) dollars per applicable filing, which amounts have not been updated since they were enacted into law in 1997 and 2009. The proposed legislation seeks to increase the sums provided to Rhode Island Legal Services to twenty (\$20) dollars per applicable filing, providing greater funding to support Rhode Island Legal Services.

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 "Chrisanne Wyrzykowski".

Chrisanne Wyrzykowski  
General Counsel