



Testimony: H7202
SUPPORT for The Rhode Island Federal Constitution Defense Act
March 4, 2026

Dear Chair McEntee and Committee Members,

My name is Jocelyn Foye, and I am the Executive Director of The Womxn Project, a Providence-based nonprofit that frequently focuses on matters related to reproductive rights, LGBTQ+ rights, and government transparency.

I am writing in support of H7202. If passed, this act would create a Rhode Island civil cause of action allowing individuals to sue federal officials and law enforcement for violations of Federal Constitutional rights. This act also limits legal immunity for those being sued and requires them to pay attorneys fees and damages if the plaintiff wins their case.

Passing this bill is crucial because it provides a way for Rhode Islanders to hold authority figures accountable for violations to their constitutional rights. One's status as a federal official or agent should not prevent them from facing consequences for unlawful conduct such as violating constitutional rights, as this sets a dangerous precedent which would put the general public at risk.

Under no circumstances should constitutional rights be violated, and Rhode Island must make this clear. By implementing The RI Federal Constitution Defense Act, Rhode Island will remind all federal officials and agents that there will be consequences for any Constitutional rights violations they commit, and that it is their responsibility to act accordingly if they do not want to be sued.

It is your duty to protect Rhode Islanders, and by passing this legislation, you will be helping to do so. We must set the standard for what behavior we expect, especially from those who have more authority than others.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Jocelyn Foye
Executive Director, The Womxn Project