



Rhode Island State Council of Churches and the Rhode Island Bible Society

Mr. Jeremy M. Langill
Executive Minister

March 4th, 2026

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The Honorable Carol Hagan McEntee
Chair, House Judiciary Committee
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903

re: support for H7360

Dear Chairwoman Hagan McEntee and Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

The Rhode Island State Council of Churches strongly supports H7360, legislation that ensures court access, sets enforcement rules, and ensures that people attending Rhode Island Court proceedings are free from unwarranted civil arrest.

Constitutional protections mean nothing if they are unenforced. Threatening, harassing, or unlawfully detaining individuals who are participating in court proceedings is both a legal and moral violation of the spirit of the law.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeremy M. Langill, Executive Minister

Joining the Council of Churches are numerous Rhode Island clergy listed below.

Rev. Aidan Kelley
Woodridge Congregational Church

Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Blackstone
United Methodist Church, East Greenwich

Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup

Rev. Kenneth Orazi
Community Church of Providence

Ms. Jeanne DiPietro
St. Matthew Trinity Lutheran Church

Rev. Trisha Thorne
St. Peter's & St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Carol Wilcox
St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Rev. Sam Lovett

Rabbi Preston Neimeiser
Temple Beth-el; RI Commission on Prejudice and Bias



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Rev. Dr. G. Russell Miller

Rev. Lauri Smalls

Rev. Scott Spencer

Rev. Elizabeth Lerner Maclay
First Unitarian Church of Providence

Pastor Todd Stange

Rev. Tracey Griffing
Rhode Island State Council of Churches

Rev. Janet M. Cooper Nelson
United Church of Christ

Rev. Effie McAvoy
Shepherd of the Valley, UMC
Hearts for Social Justice

Angela McParland
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team

Rev. Caroline Webb Johnson