



Director's Office

One Capitol Hill | Providence, RI 02908 | (401) 222-2280

March 10, 2025

The Honorable Carol Hagan McEntee
Chairperson, House Committee on Judiciary
Rhode Island House of Representatives
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

Re: House Bill No. 7509 – Identity Theft Protection Act of 2015

Dear Chairperson McEntee,

Thank you for providing the Rhode Island Department of Administration (“Department”) with the opportunity to comment on House Bill No. 7509. These proposed updates represent a vital step forward in further defining the expectations for the protection of Rhode Islanders’ personally identifiable information and managing cybersecurity risk in an increasingly complex threat landscape.

This legislation thoughtfully directs the implementation of a risk-based information security program and reflects an understanding that safeguarding Rhode Islanders’ personal information must be proportional to the scale, sensitivity, and purpose of the data being managed. This flexibility allows both public and private sector organizations to mature their security programs in line with their operational realities, without losing sight of their responsibilities to protect data and report any compromise of data within their control through the appropriate channels to ensure expedient resolution.

Rhode Island's public sector, municipalities, and critical infrastructure providers have made significant strides in strengthening cybersecurity over the last several years. Formalizing increased expectations through updated legislation ensures that this momentum continues.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to protecting the people and digital infrastructure of our state. The Division looks forward to continuing to support and partner on this critical topic.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Tardiff".

Brian Tardiff
Chief Digital Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathan Loura".

Nathan Loura
Chief Information Security Officer

cc: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Judiciary
The Honorable Lauren Carson
Nicole McCarty, Esq. Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House
Roberta DiMezza, Clerk