



Joseph L. Walsh, Jr.
Business Manager

Wayne A. Tait
President

22 Amflex Drive
Cranston, RI 02921
P: (401) 946-9900
F: (401) 946-9907
www.IBEW99.org

3.10.26

Representative Carol Hagan McEntee
Chair, House Judiciary Committee
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903
rep-mcentee@rilegislature.gov

RE: Support H-7509 AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION ACT OF 2015

Dear Chair McEntee,

As Business Manager of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 99, I represent over 1000 men and women who provide their skills through our vast network of signatory contractors in the Electrical Industry in the State of Rhode Island and nearby Massachusetts. I also serve as one, if not the only, voice of the men and women who are not yet fortunate enough to be represented by an electrical labor union in the state of Rhode Island.

I am writing to you today in **support of H-7509**

My membership has members as young as 18 and I have retirees in their 90's. As a victim of fraud myself and as some of the people I represent, I am happy to support this bill.

I hope there is a special place in the world beyond for the type of person who would prey upon innocent people. It is unfortunate that many of our older neighbors are just too trusting and can easily be drawn into a conversation where they accidentally share more than they should with vile people. Also, in the construction trades our members are not checking their emails or bank accounts during the day due to the environment we work in. Often, by the time a person discovers they have been targeted, the damage is difficult to undo.

In conclusion, I believe the modernized language changes and harsher penalties will offer some better deterrents to those who may consider victimizing others.

Sincerely,


Joseph L. Walsh, Jr / Business Manager
Cc:
Paul Macdonald / Local 99 Lobbyist