



State of Rhode Island
Department of State | Office of the Secretary of State
Gregg M. Amore, Secretary of State

March 12, 2026

The Honorable Carol H. McEntee, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

RE: In support of H7547 - An Act Relating to Criminal Procedure – Criminal Injuries
Compensation

Dear Chair McEntee,

I write this letter in support of House Bill 7547, legislation that will enable victims of stalking to be eligible for costs associated with relocation or modification of a victim's residence through the Crime Victim Compensation Program (CVCP), administered by General Treasurer James A. Diossa's Office.

The Department of State administers the Address Confidentiality Program (ACP), which enables victims of domestic violence, abuse, stalking, sexual assault, or trafficking to protect the confidentiality of their addresses. The ACP serves many of the same victims and families who receive support from CVCP.

Individuals impacted by crime may find it difficult or frightening to continue with their daily tasks and routine, especially in matters relating to public civic life. For this reason, I urge this Committee to support including victims of stalking under the eligibility parameters of the Crime Victims Compensation Program proposed in House Bill 7547, as it will provide the most meaningful financial assistance and reprieve to these victims. This support – in tandem with the ACP and services provided by many partner organizations – will ensure that victims are safe and that being impacted by crime does not prevent anyone from participating in civic life.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michelle Arias, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, at marias@sos.ri.gov.

Sincerely,

Gregg M. Amore
Secretary of State

cc: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Judiciary
The Honorable Jenni A. Furtado