

RHODE ISLAND STATE LODGE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

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March 24, 2026

RI House of Representatives
Judiciary Committee

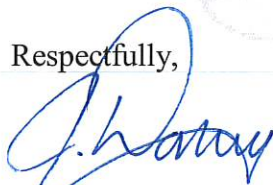
Re: Support for House Bill 2026 – H7128

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee,

The Rhode Island Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) strongly supports all measures aimed at enhancing the safety of our communities. It is unacceptable that such a well-known void in public safety on our state campuses remains unaddressed, especially in the wake of two tragic mass shootings in our state within just two months.

Campus officers are highly qualified, sworn members who have graduated from state or municipal training academies. Many are previously retired law enforcement professionals with the specialized experience necessary to respond to modern campus threats. Equipping these officers with the tools they need is paramount to ensuring the well-being of the students and faculty they protect. When every second counts, our campus communities should not be forced to call the police and wait for another agency to arrive; the officers already on the scene must be ready to act with all of the tools necessary to do so.

Respectfully,



John Donley
State President