



## RHODE ISLAND POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

March 24, 2026

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

[HouseJudiciary@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseJudiciary@rilegislature.gov)

SUPPORT H 8272

Dear Chairwoman McEntee and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Rhode Island Police Chiefs Association, I write in support H 8272.

This bill is about accountability—plain and simple. Any law enforcement officer who abuses their authority to engage in sexual conduct with someone in custody, under investigation, or otherwise under their control must be held fully accountable. There is no justification for this conduct, and consent cannot be a defense.

The profession demands the highest standards. When those standards are violated, the response must be clear, firm, and unequivocal. This legislation sends that message and ensures that those who engage in this behavior face appropriate criminal consequences.

H 8272 protects the public, reinforces the integrity of law enforcement, and makes clear that this conduct will not be tolerated.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Sidney Wordell (ret.)  
Executive Director  
Rhode Island Police Chiefs Association

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Chief Michael Correia  
Barrington Police Dept.

VICE PRESIDENT  
Chief Ryan Duffy  
Newport Police Dept.

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