



## The RI **FREEDOM** Collective

HOUSE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADDRESS CONCERNS IN THE DELIVERY OF HEALTHCARE TO INMATES AND INDIVIDUALS AWAITING TRIAL IN THE CUSTODY OF THE RIDOC

March 30, 2026

Dear Chairperson McEntee and members of the House Judiciary Committee,

On behalf of the Rhode Island Freedom Collective we respectfully submit this testimony in **strong support** for HB7216 currently under consideration before the House Judiciary Committee.

Creating a special legislative commission to study healthcare delivery within the Rhode Island Department of Corrections is essential to ensuring that incarcerated individuals and those awaiting trial receive constitutionally adequate, humane, and effective medical care. Persistent concerns about access, quality, timeliness, and oversight demand a structured, transparent review by a body equipped to gather data, hear expert testimony, and evaluate systemic gaps. A commission can provide independent analysis and develop informed, practical recommendations that strengthen accountability, improve health outcomes, and ensure that the state meets its legal and ethical obligations to the people in its custody.

For these reasons we respectfully urge you to vote in favor of HB7216.

Thank you for your time, your public service, and your thoughtful consideration of our position.

Sincerely,

*Mario Monteiro*

*Steven Parkhurst*

*Kyle Campbell*