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April 8, 2026

The Honorable Carol Hagan McEntee
Chairwoman, House Judiciary Committee
Rhode Island House of Representatives
State House
Providence, RI 02903
HouseJudiciary@rillegislature.gov

Support H. 7754 – out of state conceal carry permits

Dear Chairwoman McEntee and Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

On behalf of the Rhode Island Police Chiefs Association, I write to express our support for H 7754.

This legislation provides important clarity and consistency in the concealed carry permitting process by ensuring that applicants seek licensure through the appropriate local authority tied to their residence or place of business. This change reinforces local oversight and accountability, which are critical components of Rhode Island's permitting framework.

The bill also appropriately strengthens protections for personally identifiable information by prohibiting the public release of names, addresses, and dates of birth of concealed carry permit holders, while still preserving access to that information when required for law enforcement purposes, prosecutions, or pursuant to a lawful subpoena. This is an important safeguard that protects individual privacy and officer safety, while ensuring that the courts and law enforcement agencies retain the ability to access necessary information in the course of their duties.

From a law enforcement perspective, H 7754 supports a more streamlined and transparent permitting process, reduces ambiguity for applicants, and ensures that decisions are made by the most appropriate jurisdiction with knowledge of the applicant's background and community ties.

We respectfully urge the Committee to support H 7754. Thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to public safety in Rhode Island.

Sincerely,

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