



## RHODE ISLAND POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

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Rhode Island Supreme Court

April 8, 2026

The Honorable Carol Hagan McEntee  
Chairwoman, House Judiciary Committee  
Rhode Island House of Representatives  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903  
[HouseJudiciary@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseJudiciary@rilegislature.gov)

### **Support H. 8068 – prohibits firearm possession by a minor**

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. 8068.

This legislation reinforces important safeguards related to firearm possession by minors by clearly establishing that individuals under the age of eighteen may not possess firearms except under defined, supervised circumstances. These provisions appropriately recognize lawful and structured activities—such as hunting, training, and organized programs—while ensuring that firearm access by minors remains limited, supervised, and accountable.

From a law enforcement perspective, clarity in statute is critical. H. 8068 strengthens the existing legal framework by removing ambiguity and providing officers with clear guidance in enforcement situations involving minors and firearms. This helps ensure consistent application of the law across jurisdictions and supports efforts to prevent unsafe or unauthorized firearm use.

Our members are committed to protecting the safety of young people and the broader community. Establishing clear boundaries around firearm possession by minors is a practical and necessary step toward reducing risk and promoting responsible use.

We respectfully urge the Committee to support H. 8068. 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