

April 9, 2026

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

Re: H 8048 – AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE –
COURTS -- JUDICIAL SELECTION

Dear Chair McEntee,

We are writing to you on behalf of the Rhode Island Bar Association in reference to the above-captioned legislation. Included in the proposed amendment is a reference to the Rhode Island Bar Association and its Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Due to the Bylaws and Governance structure of the Rhode Island Bar Association, the sole authority for the Bar Association rests with its President and/or Executive Committee and House of Delegates. In this regard, we would ask that you consider a proposed amendment which would read as follows:

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and Ethnic Fairness, in consultation with the Rhode Island Bar Association ~~and its Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion~~, shall appoint a qualified individual to serve as the new or replacement member for the unexpired term.

We will make ourselves available to discuss any concerns regarding the requested amendment.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM A. FARRELL & ASSOCIATES LLC



William A. Farrell
RI Bar Legislative Counsel