



State of Rhode Island
Department of State | Office of the Secretary of State
Gregg M. Amore, Secretary of State

May 13, 2026

The Honorable Carol H. McEntee, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

RE: In support of House Bill 8060 - An Act Relating to Criminal Offenses – Impersonation
and Identity Fraud

Dear Chair McEntee,

I write this letter in support of House Bill 8060, legislation that would protect individuals and businesses from entity impersonation and identity fraud.

The Department of State's Business Services Division maintains Rhode Island's business registry, which records new business formations and ongoing business registration activity for more than 110,355 active entities registered in our state. As our office oversees the business landscape, we have observed an uptick in the number of business owners who have been victims of identity theft. Business identity theft can have a significant legal and financial impact on its victims.

In modernizing Rhode Island's criminal statutes to safeguard against evolving fraudulent schemes and technology, this legislation will help reduce the number of deceived business owners and individuals and allow law enforcement to directly address this criminal activity.

Therefore, I urge the members of the Committee to support House Bill 8060, as we believe that any legislative tool that can help combat business-related scams will provide Rhode Islanders and entrepreneurs with a viable means to address and deter these emerging forms of fraud and deceitful technology.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michelle Arias, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, at marias@sos.ri.gov.

Sincerely,

Gregg M. Amore
Secretary of State

cc: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Judiciary
The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon