

To the House Committee on Judiciary,

I am writing to express my support for House Bill 7651, Bail on 32. This act would require courts to presume release for most probation violations, set reasonable bail or non-monetary conditions, limit detention to cases of risk or danger, require prompt hearings, and mandate written reasons for detention.

Rhode Island's probation system is one of the harshest in the country. Our state has the second-highest probation rate in the United States, and people accused of probation violations are often incarcerated for weeks while waiting for a hearing, even when the alleged violation would not normally result in jail time.

These unnecessary detentions can cause people to lose their jobs, housing, and stability, even if the violation is ultimately dismissed. They also contribute significantly to incarceration at the ACI—about 30% of all pretrial admissions are alleged probation violators.

Keeping people in jail costs taxpayers so much money. According to the Rhode Island Department of Corrections, incarceration costs over \$250 per person per day, meaning reforming Rule 32 could save Rhode Islanders nearly \$24 million each year.

BAIL ON 32 (H7651) would create a fairer process by requiring courts to presume release for most probation violations, set reasonable bail or non-monetary conditions, require prompt hearings, and ensure written justification for detention.

This reform would help protect due process, reduce unnecessary incarceration, and make our legal system more efficient.

Please pass H7651 (Bail on 32).

Thank you.

-Alex Denisevich
East Greenwich, RI