

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND



Department of Corrections

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The Honorable Carol Hagan McEntee
House Committee on Judiciary
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

April 30, 2026

Re: H8463– An Act Relating to Criminal Procedure - Arrest

Dear Chairperson McEntee:

This evening the House Committee on Judiciary will consider House Bill #8463. This bill would make it unlawful for a person in the custody of the Rhode Island Department of Corrections to use any force or weapon to resist a lawful request or directive. RIDOC supports this legislation.

It is of the utmost importance that correctional officers and nonuniformed staff members have the confidence and ability to safely perform their duties. Any use of force or a weapon to resist a lawful request or directive is contrary to policy and should be subject to consequences, inclusive of the most severe internal disciplinary sanctions available and when appropriate, additional state charges.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Wayne T. Salisbury Jr.
Director

cc: Honorable Members of the House Committee on Judiciary
The Honorable Earl A. Read III
Nicole McCarty, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House

The mission of RIDOC is to maintain a safe and secure correctional system that prioritizes the well-being of staff, incarcerated individuals, and the community. We strive to achieve this by promoting a respectful work environment, utilizing data-driven practices to guide decisions, and offering a wide range of programs to facilitate successful reintegration into the community and reduce recidivism.