



**Champion Advocacy
Associates**

March 5, 2025

The Honorable Arthur Corvese
House Committee on Labor
State House
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chairman Corvese and Committee Members,

The Northern RI Chamber of Commerce (NRICC) represents businesses in the communities of Burrillville, Central Falls, Cumberland, Foster, Glocester, Johnston, Lincoln, North Providence, North Smithfield, Pawtucket, Scituate, Smithfield and Woonsocket.

The Chamber is writing to express support for H.5943, An Act Relating to Businesses and Professions – Holiday Business and thank Chairman Casey and the co-sponsors for their support. H.5943 begins the process of addressing Rhode Island's designation as the last state in the country to require premium pay be paid to employees who work Sundays or holidays as a part of their normal 40-hour work week. Massachusetts phased out its requirement leaving Rhode Island as the lone outlier.

This legislation exempts small businesses – defined as a business with less than 15 employees – from the premium pay requirement. It also exempts larger employers if they are covered by a collective bargaining agreement that includes the exemption.

The Chamber encourages this committee to support the passage of H.5943 and further encourages the committee to remove the premium pay requirement for all businesses in the state.

Respectfully submitted,

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