



February 5, 2026

Hon. Arthur Corvese
c/o HouseLabor@rilegislature.gov
Chairman
House Committee on Labor
State House
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Support for H-7146; An Act Relating to Labor and Labor Relations—Div. of Professional Regulation

Dear Chairman Corvese,

BuildRI is a domestic non-profit trade association comprised of four (4) contractor associations (the Labor Relations Division of the RI Chapter of the Associated General Contractors, the New England Mechanical Contractors' Ass'n, the RI Mason Contractors' Ass'n, and the RI and Southeast MA Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors' Ass'n), and sixteen (16) Local Trade Unions that make up the Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council representing an approximately 10,000 local tradesmen and women. On behalf of our organization, I write in SUPPORT of the above referred to legislation for the reasons that follow.

A trade worker goes through a long and arduous process to attain and maintain a trade license issued by the state Department of Labor and Training. Currently, when a licensee retires he or she can choose not to continue to pay for his or her license annually and lose his or her licensed credentials or continue to pay a substantial annual license fee to the state to maintain his or her license even though it is not generating any income for them.

This proposed legislation creates a retiree license category for licensed trade workers who retire and are age 65 and over. So if a retired licensee finds that he or she has to come out of retirement because of financial or other reasons he or she will have the ability to do so. This is a similar option to what numerous other professions, including lawyers, are allowed to do. Accordingly, we urge you to pass this bill into law.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gregory A. Mancini".

Gregory A. Mancini
Executive Director/General Counsel