



March 18, 2026

Hon. Arthur Corvese  
Chairperson  
House Committee on Labor  
HouseLabor@rilegislature.gov  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903

Re: **HB 7959; An Act Relating to Public Property and Works – Labor and Payment of Debts by Contractors**

Dear Chair 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 seventeen (17) Local Trade Unions comprised of approximately 10,000 local tradesmen and women. On behalf of BuildRI and our partners, I write in support of HB 7959.

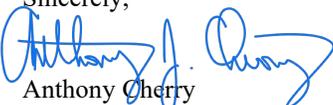
The General Assembly has made important strides in recent years to combat wage theft and employee misclassification. This legislation represents a natural and necessary continuation of that work by promoting transparency and accountability in wage practices.

HB 7959 would ensure that employees are clearly informed about how much they are being paid and what deductions are being taken from their wages. By requiring employers to provide an itemized list of employment terms at the time of hiring, along with a detailed pay stub each payday, this bill equips workers with a simple but effective tool to verify their earnings.

Importantly, this measure is not burdensome for responsible employers. Reputable contractors already provide pay stubs that reflect lawful wages and deductions. Rather, this legislation helps to identify and deter unscrupulous actors who seek to exploit workers through unclear or deceptive pay practices.

Ultimately, HB 7959 strengthens worker protections while reinforcing the General Assembly’s ongoing efforts to address wage theft and misclassification within our economy. It promotes fairness, transparency, and accountability for both employees and employers.

Thank you for your attention to this correspondence. Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
  
Anthony Cherry  
Assistant Executive Director