

RHODE ISLAND



Rhode Island Poor People's Campaign
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April 9, 2024

To: Members of the House Committee on State Government & Elections

In support of Resolution H-7968: ban ICE contracts in Rhode Island

Honorable members of the House Committee on State Government & Elections:

This letter is on behalf of the Rhode Island Poor People's Campaign: a National Call for Moral Revival. We are a network of individuals, congregations and community organizations committed to lifting up and deepening the leadership of those most affected by the interlocking injustices of systemic racism, poverty and inequality, the war economy, ecological devastation, and the false narrative of religious nationalism. We seek to build unity across lines of division.

Rhode Island should ban inhumane immigration detention practices and redirect funds from deportations and border control to subsidizing public housing. As outlined in a Poor People's Campaign 2024 Rhode Island fact sheet, state taxpayer dollars could provide funding for 11,000 public housing units.¹

This reallocation of funds reflects the ethical imperatives embraced by the Rhode Island Poor People's Campaign and addresses the current homelessness emergency, which is a manifestation of the interlocking injustices of systemic racism, poverty and inequality.

In sum, please support House Bill number 7968.

Yours sincerely,

The Rhode Island Poor Peoples' Campaign

¹<https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Rhode-Island-Fact-Sheet-2024.pdf>