



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
Department of Children, Youth and Families
Director's Office
101 Friendship St.
Providence, RI 02903

March 6, 2025

The Honorable Evan P. Shanley, Chairman
House Committee on State Government and Elections
State House, Room 101
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

RE: 2025 H-5723 – Relating to State Affairs and Government – State-Owned and Operated Printing Facilities Preference Act

Dear Chairman Shanley:

Please accept this letter from the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF or “the department”) regarding H 5723, which will be heard in the Committee on State Government and Elections.

This bill would require any State agency, State institution of higher education, and quasi-public agency that prints more than 50 copies of a contract, publication, brochure, notice, or promotional material to use a State-owned or operated print shop.

As often as possible, DCYF uses its internal resources for printing materials. However, there are limits to those resources, and unique projects may require use of a vendor through Master Price Agreements. Recently, the department released its five-year strategic plan. It is available online, but many individuals, including legislators, appreciate the opportunity to have a hard copy. The strategic plan could not be printed internally due to the finishings needed to yield a professional product: it is in booklet form, with glossy pages, and colors extend to the edge of many of the pages. With important projects like this, DCYF will use the most competitive bid from a vendor to make professional materials available in a timely manner.

Thank you for allowing the department to submit testimony regarding this legislation.

Sincerely,

Ashley Deckert, MSW, MA
Director

cc: Honorable Members of the House Committee on State Government and Elections
The Honorable Kathleen A. Fogarty
Nicole McCarty, Esquire, Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House
Lynne Urbani, Director of House Policy