



Rhode Island Council 94
American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO

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Dear House State Government & Elections Committee Member,

We are writing to express RI Council, 94 AFSCME's strong support for H-5723, the State-Owned and Operated Printing Facilities, Preference Act.

The State of Rhode Island owns and operates at least three printing facilities at the University of Rhode Island, Department of Corrections, and the Department of Health. Despite owning/operating three in-house print facilities many print jobs are outsourced.

Several years ago, Council 94 worked jointly with the University of Rhode Island Board of Trustees to upgrade the print shop. Today, URI's print shop is a state of the art all digital print facility.

The new equipment includes a flatbed printer, which can print on any material up to 7 inches thick; a Graphic Whizard perforating/scoring/slitting device; a Polar Mohr cutter; a high-speed Ricoh digital press, and a Konica digital press that can perform all type of bindings.

Council 94 supports H-5723:

- Printing projects in house can save on design/production/transportation.
- The preference only executes if the state owned printing facilities can handle the job. Extremely large or complex jobs would still be subject to outside vendors.
- In sourcing can lead to significant savings with efficiencies and avoid management overhead/upcharges/change-orders. The URI Print employs a fully trained graphic designer and uses the most up to date production/creation software.

In closing, we respectfully ask you to support H-5723.

Sincerely,

Michael McDonald
President

James A. Cenerini
Legislative Affairs/Political Action Coordinator