



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

2000 Plainfield Pike, Suite A, Cranston, RI 02921
phone: 401-222-2345 | fax: 401-222-3135 | web: www.elections.ri.gov

March 30, 2026

The Honorable Representative Evan P. Shanley
Chair, House State Government and Elections Committee
State House
Providence, RI 02903

RE: H7450 – An Act Relating To Elections – Rhode Island Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting

Honorable Chairman Shanley and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to share the Board's position on House bill 7450, which is scheduled to be heard by the committee on March 31, 2026.

On March 3, 2026, the Board voted to support H7450. This is the third consecutive year the Board has voted to support prohibitions on self-dealing with committee funds; prohibitions on donations made in fictitious names, reporting sub-vendors, and reporting outstanding accounts payable as strengthening current RI campaign finance laws and enforcement. This year's bill also provides that for the purposes of the limitations on contributions, all contributions made by political committees established, financed, maintained, or controlled by the same person or the same group of persons, shall be considered to have been made by a single committee. The Board has voted to support this provision as it will closely align state law with federal law.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard E. Thornton
Director of Campaign Finance
Rhode Island Board of Elections

**cc: Representative Mary Messier, First Vice Chair
Representative Arthur J. Corvese, Second Vice Chair
The Honorable Members of the House State Government and Elections Committee
Nicole McCarty, Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House
Steve Sepe, Committee Clerk**