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Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2026 8:04:43 AM

Mr. Chairman,

I am writing as a Rhode Island resident to express my concerns regarding **S-2342**, the proposal to impose new restrictions on self-service checkout stations in grocery stores.

While I understand the intent to support retail workers, this bill introduces a level of operational micromanagement that would significantly increase costs for businesses and, ultimately, for consumers. Mandating staffing ratios, limiting monitoring capacity, and tying fines to wage levels creates a rigid regulatory structure that does not reflect the diverse needs of different stores or communities.

I respectfully urge the committee to consider the unintended consequences of this proposal, particularly its impact on prices, efficiency, and the competitiveness of Rhode Island retailers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
James Stead Jr.
Burrillville, Rhode Island