



April 14, 2026

Honorable Robert Britto
Chairman, Senate Committee on Commerce
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903

RE: S3076 – SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Britto:

On behalf of the Rhode Island Business Leaders Alliance (the “Alliance”), I write in support of S3076 – An Act Relating to Businesses and Professions -- Public Accountancy. As introduced, S3076 would update Rhode Island’s Public Accountancy Act for consistency with the 9th edition of the Uniform Accountancy Act, as issued by NASBA and AICPA in July 2025.

For Rhode Island’s business community, a modern and predictable professional licensing framework is essential. Businesses across the state depend on certified public accountants and accounting firms for audit, tax, compliance, advisory, and other critical financial services. When the statutes governing that profession are outdated or inconsistent with widely recognized national standards, the result is unnecessary friction for practitioners, employers, and clients alike. S3076 is a sensible modernization measure that promotes regulatory clarity and helps ensure that Rhode Island’s laws keep pace with contemporary professional practice.

The bill is significant not because it makes a narrow technical adjustment, but because it comprehensively updates multiple provisions of the chapter governing public accountancy. Among other things, it amends definitions, licensure terminology, board provisions, reciprocity and mobility-related provisions, practice unit requirements, enforcement provisions, and administrative penalties. In doing so, it advances a more coherent statutory framework for both individual licensees and firms operating in Rhode Island.

This kind of alignment matters. Rhode Island benefits when qualified professionals can practice under rules that are clear, current, and substantially consistent with national models. A modernized accountancy statute can support workforce mobility, reduce uncertainty for firms serving clients across jurisdictions, and strengthen confidence that Rhode Island’s regulatory environment is both rigorous and workable. That is particularly important in a state where businesses of every size rely on timely access to sophisticated accounting expertise.

Just as importantly, S3076 appears to preserve the state's oversight authority while updating the governing framework in an orderly and transparent way. The Alliance supports reforms that protect the public interest without imposing unnecessary ambiguity or outdated procedural burdens. In our view, this bill reflects that balance.

Rhode Island should continue to modernize its professional licensing statutes in a manner that encourages economic activity, supports professional excellence, and provides clear rules for regulated industries. S3076 is a worthwhile step in that direction, and we respectfully urge the Committee's favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

Gregory Tumolo

Gregory Tumolo, Executive Director
Rhode Island Business Leaders Alliance

CC:
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce