
Pass BAIL ON 32 (S2161) without further delay

From jeff c <jccfd558@gmail.com>

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To Senate Judiciary Committee <SenateJudiciary@rilegislature.onmicrosoft.com>

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Bail on 32 Senate Judiciary written testimony 2026

Dear Chairperson Senator LaMountain and Members of the Senate Judiciary,

My name is Jeffrey Crawford, and I am a resident of South Kingstown. I am writing to urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to **PASS BAIL ON 32 (S2161)** without further delay.

Rhode Island's probation system is one of the harshest in the country. Our state has the **second-highest probation rate in the United States**, and people accused of probation violations are often incarcerated **for weeks while waiting for a hearing**, even when the alleged violation would not normally result in jail time. These unnecessary detentions can cause people to **lose their jobs, housing, and stability**, even if the violation is ultimately dismissed. They also contribute significantly to incarceration at the ACI—**about 30% of all pretrial admissions are alleged probation violators**.

Taxpayers are also bearing the financial burdens of these unnecessary detentions. According to the Rhode Island Department of Corrections, incarceration costs **over \$250 per person per day**, meaning reforming Rule 32 could save Rhode Islanders **nearly \$24 million each year**.

BAIL ON 32 (S2161) would create a fairer process by requiring courts to presume release for most probation violations, set reasonable bail or non-monetary conditions, require prompt hearings, and ensure written justification for detention.

This reform would help protect due process, reduce unnecessary incarceration, and make our justice system more efficient.

I respectfully urge you to **PASS BAIL ON 32 (S2161) without further delay**.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Crawford

South Kingstown