



## The RI **FREEDOM** Collective

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL SB2711

#### AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE-EXPUNGEMENT OF CRIMINAL RECORDS-THE RHODE ISLAND CLEAN SLATE ACT

March 7, 2026

Dear Chairperson LaMountain and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

On behalf of the Rhode Island Freedom Collective we respectfully submit this testimony in strong support for SB2711 currently under consideration before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Authorizing the automatic expungement of eligible conviction records by operation of law ensures that people who have already earned a second chance are not held back by bureaucratic barriers or inconsistent access to legal assistance. When state agencies initiate and complete expungements through secure electronic processes within the judicial system, relief becomes timely, accurate, and equitable. This modernized approach reduces administrative burdens, prevents outdated records from lingering in public databases, and allows individuals to move forward with employment, housing, and educational opportunities. Automating expungement transforms what is often a confusing, resource dependent process into a fair, efficient system that truly reflects the state's commitment to rehabilitation and reintegration.

For these reasons we respectfully urge you to vote in favor of SB2711.

Thank you for your time, your public service, and your thoughtful consideration of our position.

Sincerely,

*Mario Monteiro*

*Steve Parkhurst*

*Kyle Campbell*

Rhode Island Freedom Collective



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