

From: [Marianne Kelly](#)
To: [SLegislation](#)
Subject: SUPPORT for Senate Bill No. 2638
Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 10:12:06 AM

Senate Bill No. 2638 Entitled, An Act Relating to Criminal Offenses -- Identity Theft Protection Act

Chairwoman Gu and members of the Senate Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies Committee:

I am writing in strong support of Senate Bill No. 2638, the Identity Theft Protection Act of 2015. This legislation represents an important and timely step in strengthening protections for Rhode Islanders—especially older adults—in an increasingly digital and interconnected world.

Older adults are frequent targets of identity theft and financial fraud. Once personal or financial information is compromised, recovery can be extremely difficult, time-consuming, and costly. This is particularly true for older individuals who may be living on fixed incomes or who have limited access to digital tools, technical support, or credit monitoring services. The consequences of identity theft for this population can be devastating, threatening not only financial stability but also peace of mind and independence.

Senate Bill No. 2638 strengthens Rhode Island's commitment to safeguarding personal information by modernizing definitions and increasing penalties for violations. These updates are critical to keeping pace with the evolving nature of identity theft, including increasingly sophisticated cyber threats and data breaches.

I support this bill because it helps close existing security gaps, holds agencies and third-party vendors accountable for protecting sensitive information, and reinforces the importance of responsible data stewardship. Stronger penalties also send a clear message that identity theft and negligence in handling personal data will not be tolerated.

For older adults—who are disproportionately targeted by fraud and often face greater barriers to recovery—these protections are not just beneficial, they are essential. Strengthening these safeguards helps ensure that all Rhode Islanders can feel more secure in their personal and financial lives.

I respectfully urge you to support Senate Bill No. 2638 and take this important step toward enhancing identity theft protections across our state. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Marianne Kelly
Johnston, RI

