

Via Electronic Mail

March 31, 2026

The Honorable Victoria Gu
Chair, Senate Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: Letter Regarding Senate Bill 2638 – An Act Relating to Criminal Offenses --
Identity Theft Protection Act Of 2015**

Dear Chair Gu:

I am writing on behalf of the Rhode Island Department of Revenue, Division of Taxation (“Division”), to: i) express concerns regarding issues with proposed Senate Bill 2638 as currently drafted; ii) explain the background and current statutory context in order to clarify the intended and unintended consequences of this bill; and iii) make recommendations and request your support in implementing those recommendations.

This letter is not intended as a position in support of or opposition to the bill, but only to notify the Committee of potential impacts of the bill on tax administration.

As you know, Senate Bill 2638 amends several sections within R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 11-49.3, entitled “Identity Theft Protection Act of 2015.” As it relates to taxation, the bill would delete from R.I. Gen. Laws § 11-49.3-3 the definition for “[c]lassified data,” among others, and replace it with a definition for “[p]ersonally identifiable information.” The bill is set to take effect on July 1, 2026.

The Division has concerns with the proposed removal of the “[c]lassified data” definition, which includes “federal tax information (FTI).” In order for the Division to receive FTI from the IRS, the Division must comply with [Publication 1075](#) (Rev. 11-2021),¹ which establishes mandatory security guidelines for protecting FTI. If the State were not to adhere to those guidelines, there is a significant risk to the State that would be detrimental to our tax system, as well as other State systems. Therefore, it is important that this bill does not in any way lessen the protections for that information, which likely is not the intent of the bill.

The Division takes no position with respect to the remainder of the proposed legislation. Rather, the Division is concerned solely with the issues of clarity, tax compliance, and tax administration.

¹ See <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p1075.pdf>.

The Division looks forward to working with you to address the issues raised in this letter and appreciates your consideration.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Msavage", with a horizontal line underneath.

Neena S. Savage
Tax Administrator

cc: The Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Artificial Intelligence & Emerging Technologies (via: Slegislation@rilegislature.gov)
Kristen Silvia, Deputy Chief of Staff/Director of Legislation
Jane E. Cole, Interim Director, Department of Revenue