

February 27, 2024

Honorable Joseph Solomon Chairman, House Corporations Committee Rhode Island State House Providence, RI 02903

RE: H.7424, An Act Relating to Commercial Law – General Regulatory Provisions – Filing of Assumed Name

Chairman Solomon and Committee Members,

The undersigned members of the Rhode Island Business Coalition support the passage of H.7424, An Act Relating to Commercial Law – General Regulatory Provisions – Filing of Assumed Name.

H.7424 establishes a "one-stop shop" filing database for all businesses operating in Rhode Island under an assumed name. Today, certain businesses only file in the city or town in which it is located, not with the State. This legislation calls for the Secretary of State to establish a database by August 1, 2025; transfer data from municipalities by September 30, 2025; and begin the new filing system for businesses by January 1, 2026. This system would allow all businesses to file paperwork at the same place.

The Coalition supports efforts to streamline the filing process for entities. We believe H.7424 is a part of the solution. We urge the committee to support this legislation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Associated Builders and Contractors, Rhode Island

East Greenwich Chamber of Commerce

Energy Marketers Association Rhode Island

Greater Newport Chamber of Commerce

North Kingstown Chamber of Commerce

Rhode Island Association of REALTORS®

Rhode Island Beverage Association

Rhode Island Builders Association

Rhode Island Business Group on Health

Rhode Island Hospitality Association

Rhode Island Manufacturers Association

Rhode Island Marine Trades Association

Rhode Island Small Business Economic Summit Tax and Budget Committee

Rhode Island Staffing Association

Rhode Island Society of Certified Public Accountants

Sustainable Benefits Strategies, LLC