

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND



**Department of Corrections**

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The Honorable Marvin L. Abney  
House Committee on Finance  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

April 25, 2024

**Re: H7275— Relating to Public Officers and Employees -- Retirement System - Contributions and Benefits**

Dear Chairperson Abney:

This evening the House Finance Committee will consider House Bill #7275. This bill would add the administrator of community confinement and the home confinement coordinator positions into the state retirement system. The Rhode Island Department of Corrections (RIDOC) continues to support this legislation.

The existing statute RIGL § 36-10-9.2 inadvertently excludes a number of positions held by longtime employees that did not exist when the statute was written. This adversely impacts the retirement benefits available to individuals who began their state service in the correctional officer pension schedule before being promoted to positions in the traditional state retirement pension system or vice versa. As the Department works pragmatically to address the pension schedule status of other positions resulting in barriers for hiring, this particular example creates an adverse barrier for retirement for the existing employees in these positions.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Wayne T. Salisbury Jr.  
Acting Director

cc: Honorable Members of the House Finance Committee  
The Honorable Representatives Casimiro and Quattrocchi  
Nicole McCarty, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House