

Chris O'Brien

From: R.J. Petrillo <rjpetrillo@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 9, 2025 2:27 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Cc: Rep. Shekarchi, K Joseph; Rep. Blazejewski, Christopher R.; Rep. Chippendale, Michael W.
Subject: Please Support H6014 – Sales Tax Exemption for Firearm Safety Equipment

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee and House Leadership,

As a Rhode Island resident and advocate for responsible gun ownership, I'm writing to urge you to support H6014, which would create a sales and use tax exemption on firearm safes, vaults, and safety equipment.

With the recent passage of Rhode Island's safe storage law, the General Assembly has taken an important step to help prevent unauthorized access to firearms—particularly by children and other at-risk individuals. H6014 is a logical and necessary complement to this effort. By removing the sales tax on safety devices, the state can further encourage and incentivize compliance with the new law and make it easier for gun owners to take the responsible step of securely storing their firearms.

Just as we don't tax essential safety equipment like smoke detectors or bicycle helmets, we should treat firearm safety tools the same way. Cost should not be a barrier to safe storage. This bill promotes public safety, reduces the risk of accidental shootings and suicides, and shows that Rhode Island supports both gun safety and responsible gun ownership.

Please vote yes on H6014 and help make our communities safer.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard Petrillo

Cranston, RI