

Call Off Your Old
Tired Ethics



February 12, 2024

Dear House Judiciary Members,

Please vote yes on H7452.

This bill would eliminate the extra costs for women offenders convicted of prostitution related crimes. Under § 11-34.1-7 (b) makes, it a crime for a person to receive money from a prostitute. It is even more morally reprehensible for the state to take money from a prostitute under threat of incarceration, as this can put sex workers and sex trafficking survivors in desperate circumstances where they feel they have to take dangerous clients they would otherwise turn away.

The bill also eliminates the Loitering for Prostitution section. [Loitering laws](#) have been found [unconstitutional](#) in [other states](#), with one [Oklahoma judge](#) explaining "a person should be convicted only for what he does, not for what he is." Removing this section would bring Rhode Island into alignment with other states and could prevent a costly constitutional case.

Please vote yes on H7452.

Thank you,

Tara Burns
Bella Robinson
Ramona Flour