



**State of Rhode Island**  
**DIVISION OF STATE POLICE**  
**State Police Headquarters, 311 Danielson Pike, North Scituate, Rhode Island 02857**  
**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT AND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

**Colonel Darnell S. Weaver**  
**Superintendent**

February 25, 2025

The Honorable Robert E. Craven, Sr., Chair  
House Committee on Judiciary  
Rhode Island House of Representatives  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: 2025-H 5220– An Act Relating to Motor and Other Vehicles – Comprehensive  
Community Police Relationship Act of 2015**

Dear Chairman Craven:

On behalf of the Rhode Island State Police, please accept this letter expressing concerns regarding legislation currently before the House Committee on Judiciary entitled, “Comprehensive Community Police Relationship Act of 2015,” which would reinstate the expired CCPRA of 2015 with significant, material changes.

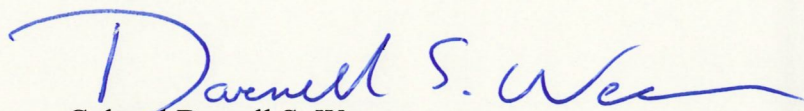
RISP supports transparent policing and the collection of relevant data for a fair and impartial evaluation. To this point, even though the reporting requirements set forth in CCPRA of 2015 expired in 2020, the RISP continues to collect relevant data and provides it to the Department of Transportation, Office of Highway Safety, when requested. With that said, the proposal includes a new subsection, § 31-21.2-7(e), which would create a new private cause of action against any police department for “...failing to collect or transmit the data required in this chapter, or for failing to comply with the other requirements of this chapter[.]”

Respectfully, the RISP opposes providing a private cause of action to “[a]n organization chartered for the purpose of combating discrimination, racism, or safeguarding civil liberties, or of promoting full, free, or equal employment opportunities, and/or a governmental or quasi-governmental entity[.]” *Id.* Frankly, this subsection puts police departments in a potential adversarial position with certain third-party organizations when the goal should be to ensure accurate information is provided in a timely manner so corrective action can be implemented, if appropriate. The enumerated third-party organizations should not have the legal standing to bring a private cause of action when the duty to comply with any reporting requirement is owed to the public as a whole and not to any individual group or person. Moreover, allowing a private cause of action for a broadly phrased “failing to comply with other requirements of this chapter” may create a slippery slope on the type of actions brought against law enforcement agencies by these third-party organizations.

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I thank you for the opportunity to express the position of the Rhode Island State Police on legislation currently before the House Committee on Judiciary, H-5220 entitled, "An Act Relating to Motor and Other Vehicles – Comprehensive Community Police Relationship Act of 2015."

Respectfully,



Colonel Darnell S. Weaver  
Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police  
Director of Public Safety

cc: House Committee on Judiciary Members  
Nicole McCarty, Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House  
Major Ronald Longolucco  
Adam Sholes, Esq. – DPS Chief Legal Counsel  
Governor's Office