



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE**

March 11, 2025

The Honorable Robert E. Craven  
Chair, House Committee on Judiciary  
House Lounge, Rhode Island State House  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Re: *Letter of Support H5892 – An Act Relating to Courts and Civil Procedure – Courts – Court Administration*

Dear Chairman Craven,

I write to express my strong support of H 5892, An Act Relating to Courts and Civil Procedure – Courts – Court Administration (Act), which would improve the safety and security of judicial officers and their families by limiting disclosure of their personal information.

The Act is similar to recent federal legislation, the Daniel Aderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act, signed into law in 2022 following the tragic murder of New Jersey District Judge Esther Salas's 20-year-old son by a man targeting the jurist at her home. Yet, notwithstanding passage of the Aderl Act, the National Judicial Conference reported in 2024 that serious threats to federal judges have doubled since 2021, a pattern also seen at the state court level.

Considering this ongoing and rising threat, further action is needed at the state level. To that end, the Act's protections would help ensure that justices, judges, and magistrates in Rhode Island are free from intimidation and harassment. In today's digital age, personally-identifiable information is just a few clicks away, a level of accessibility that is especially troublesome to members of our judiciary, who work every day to preserve the rule of law – no matter how unpopular or contentious their decisions may be. The Act protects the judiciary's ability to remain unbiased and impartial, free from targeted harassment or personal retribution. As Governor, it is vital to me that our judicial officers maintain their commitment to the rule of law and that the residents of Rhode Island

Honorable Robert E. Craven

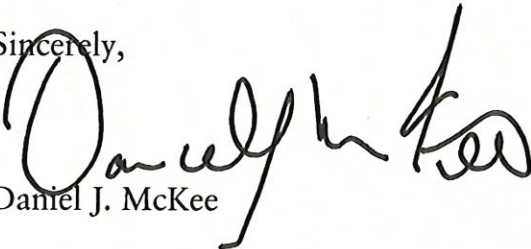
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maintain the upmost trust in our judicial system. The Act reinforces our collective commitment to a fair and balanced legal system.

In an age when personal information is easily obtained, it is prudent that we take steps to protect our judicial officers and their families from unreasonable risks and abuses. I urge this committee to advance this legislation in support of our judiciary. Thank you for the opportunity to express my support.

Sincerely,



Daniel J. McKee

CC: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Judiciary  
Honorable Carol H. McEntee  
Nicole McCarty, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker