



## Director's Office

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Jonathan Womer, Director

March 19, 2025

The Honorable Arthur J. Corvese  
Chairperson, House Committee on Labor  
Rhode Island House  
82 Smith Street, Providence, RI 02903

**RE: House Bill No. 5945- An Act Relating to Public Officers and Employees—Merit System**

Dear Chairperson Corvese,

Thank you for providing the Division of Enterprise Technology Strategy and Services (the "Division") with the Department of Administration ("Department") with the opportunity to submit comments in support of House Bill No. 5945 which proposes the creation of new job classifications for new or existing specialized information technology positions.

As the state's adoption of modern technology increases, the need for up-to-date job classifications in all information technology fields is critical to supporting and maintaining a secure and scalable technology portfolio for the State of Rhode Island. Currently, our antiquated job classifications are a hindrance in attracting IT professionals that possess the competencies required to support technology modernization. The frequency for the execution of public hearings and the process to have a position approved is extensive and proves to be a constraint that does not often align with IT project timelines and operational requirements. As a result, we are often forced into hiring contractors to develop and maintain our most modern systems – a more expensive and less responsible alternative.

This bill will allow us the agility and timeliness required to create accurate job classifications that reflect the necessary skill sets required to deploy a workforce that can support modern technologies. We will be able to change job requirements as the market and the technology changes.

The Division appreciates the opportunity to share our support of this legislation with the Committee. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact my office at your convenience

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Womer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jonathan Womer  
Director, Department of Administration

cc: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Labor  
The Honorable Representative Terri Cortvriend  
Nicole McCarty, Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House  
Lynn Urbani, Director of House Policy  
James DeCastro, Committee Clerk