



**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF COMMERCE

*Submitted via email*

April 4, 2024

The Honorable Representative Carol Hagan McEntee  
Chair, House Small Business Committee  
State House  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

**RE: Support of H. 7537**

Dear Chair McEntee and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of the technical change to the Small Business Advocacy Council (SBAC) proposed in House Bill 7537. This technical change updates the language for the SBAC's member composition from "the director of the Rhode Island economic development corporation or the director's permanent designee, ex officio" to "the secretary of the Rhode Island commerce corporation or the secretary's permanent designee, ex officio".

As the Secretary of Commerce, I have the pleasure of attending SBAC meetings to share the latest information about RI Commerce's small business programs and resources. I look forward to continuing to support our small business community through the SBAC as we work together to strengthen Rhode Island's economy.

Thank you for your consideration of our position on this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elizabeth M. Tanner". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Elizabeth M. Tanner, Esq.  
Secretary of Commerce

CC. Honorable Members of the House Small Business Committee  
The Honorable Representative Brandon T. Voas  
James DeCastro, Committee Clerk  
Nicole McCarty, Chief Legal Counsel