

Dear Chair Shanley and Vice Chairs Messier and Corvese,

I am president of the University of Rhode Island's American Association of University Professors chapter, and speak for our union, which represents nearly 800 full-time faculty.

At a time when communities across the United States are seeing increasing efforts to quash freedom of inquiry, including through attacks on public libraries' ability to offer information from multiple viewpoints on complex issues, it is vital to defend our Constitutional freedoms to speak, publish, and read.

As educators, we enthusiastically endorse H7575/S2429. Protecting our own and our students' access to information and curtailing partisan efforts to limit and shape scholarly conversations are vital to our work and to the interests of all Rhode Islanders.

Sincerely,

Dr. Miriam Reumann

URI/AAUP President and Teaching Professor, Dept of History