

TOWN OF SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RHODE ISLAND

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 2026 - 8030

ENTITLED AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES – GENERAL POWERS

WHEREAS, proposed legislation in the Rhode Island General Assembly known as House Bill 2026 - 8030, An Act Relating To Towns and Cities – General Powers, would require any person seeking to work or volunteer for a fire department or fire district in the town of South Kingstown to undergo a national and state background check conducted by the Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI), Department of Attorney General, State Police, or the South Kingstown Police Department; and

WHEREAS, fire service personnel routinely respond to emergency incidents, enter private residences, interact with vulnerable populations, and operate alongside law enforcement and emergency medical services personnel during critical incidents; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation will promote public safety and ensure consistent screening standards for firefighter applicants serving in positions of public trust within the community; and

WHEREAS, both Chief Steven Pinch of the Union Fire District and Chief Thomas Reed of the Kingston Fire District support the proposed legislation;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of South Kingstown respectfully requests that the Rhode Island General Assembly enact the above-referenced legislation known as House Bill 8030; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to transmit certified copies of this Resolution to the members of the Town's Legislative Delegation.

APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL ACTION ON this 26th day of May 2026.

TOWN OF SOUTH KINGSTOWN



Emily R. Houle

South Kingstown Town Clerk on behalf of the Town Council

