



TOWN OF EXETER, RI

TOWN COUNCIL

Daniel W. Patterson, President
Michael A. Lefebvre, Vice President
Diane Bampton Allen
Olivia DeFrancesco
Calvin A. Ellis

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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
TOWN OF EXETER**

**RESOLUTION
NO. 2024-08**

**IN OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILL 2024 – H 7763 AND
SENATE BILL 2024 – S 2679 RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS –
ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS ACT**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF EXETER AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS: Legislation has been introduced in the General Assembly to make amendments to the Access to Public Records Act specifically relating to online database centralization; and

WHEREAS: The amendments would require that all records maintained by any public body shall be, within 30 days of receipt by the public body, forwarded to the Department of Administration to be entered into a centralized online database to be maintained under the control of the Department of Administration pursuant to § 38-2-17; and

WHEREAS: According to Rhode Island General Law § 38-2-2(4), a public record shall mean all documents, papers, letters, maps, books, tapes, photographs, films, sound recordings, magnetic or other tapes, electronic data processing records, computer stored data (including electronic mail messages, except specifically for any electronic mail messages of or to elected officials with or relating to those they represent and correspondence of or to elected officials in their official capacities), or other material regardless of physical form or characteristics made or received pursuant to law or ordinance or in connection with the transaction of official business by any agency; and

WHEREAS: The many offices and public bodies of the cities and towns in Rhode Island, not to mention all of the State offices and public bodies, receive or produce an immeasurable amount of records on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS: The burden on cities and towns, and State agencies, to send all of these public records to the Department of Administration is just too great.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED:

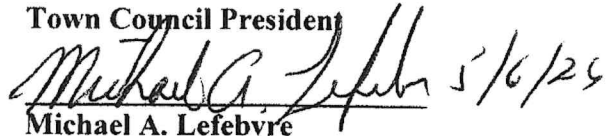
SECTION 1: That the Town Council of the Town of Exeter strongly opposes House Bill 2024 – H 7763 and Senate Bill 2024 – S 2679, and respectfully requests that the Honorable General Assembly, and the Rhode Island cities and towns oppose House Bill 2024 – H 7763 and Senate Bill 2024 – S 2679; and

SECTION 2: That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage by the Exeter Town Council.

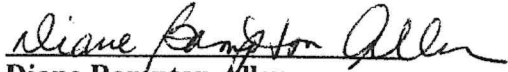
APPROVED by vote of the Exeter Town Council on this 6th day of May, 2024.



Daniel W. Patterson
Town Council President



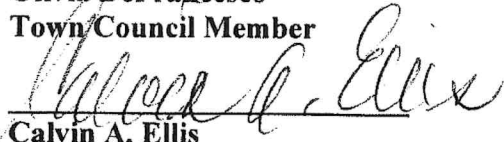
Michael A. Lefebvre
Town Council Vice President



Diane Bampton Allen
Town Council Member

OLIVIA DEFRANCESCO

Olivia DeFrancesco
Town Council Member



Calvin A. Ellis
Town Council Member

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HEREBY SET MY HAND AND THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE TOWN OF EXETER THIS 6th DAY OF MAY, 2024.



Lynn M. Hawkins, CMC
Exeter Town Clerk