



**TOWN OF RICHMOND, RHODE ISLAND
TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION # 2026-13
OPPOSING PASSAGE OF 2026 – H 7676 AND S 2612
RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT – OPEN MEETINGS**


- WHEREAS,** under the proposed Legislation relating to Open Meetings, municipalities will be required to provide recording and livestreaming services to all public bodies defined in 42-46-2; and
- WHEREAS,** this would include all volunteer-based Boards and Commissions to utilize sources such as Zoom or Microsoft Teams for meeting recording purposes, as well as accounts set up for livestreaming purposes; and
- WHEREAS,** the Town of Richmond provides these services for its residents for Town Council, Planning Board and Zoning Board meetings; and
- WHEREAS,** there is an associated cost to the Town for licensing purposes and livestreaming capabilities, as well as for any additional technical support and software to ensure meetings are accessible to members of the public who are unable to attend in person; and
- WHEREAS,** the Town of Richmond recognizes that Boards and Commissions may sometimes require public input, it is currently not a requirement that these meetings be recorded and livestreamed; and
- WHEREAS,** these requirements would inflict an undue monetary burden on the Town to be able to provide specific licensing for recording and livestreaming services to each Board or Commission for their meetings; and
- WHEREAS,** these requirements would also inflict an undue burden on the Clerk’s Office for the maintenance and facilitation of these recorded meetings, where the staffing level is already not sufficient for Richmond to do so; and
- WHEREAS,** all fees and costs associated with this legislation discussed herein are covered through additional state funding; and
- WHEREAS,** this legislation should be based on best endeavor to record and livestream meetings to allow a meeting to continue without cancellation due to technological issues.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Richmond Town Council Opposes passage of H7676 relating to State Affairs and Government – Open Meetings.

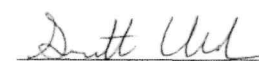
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution to be sent to the Hon. Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Hon. Senate President, the Hon. Majority and Minority Leaders of the House and Senate, the Hon. Chair Person of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and to all Hon. Representatives and Senators who Represent the Town of Richmond, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall become a permanent part of the official record of the Town Council of the Town of Richmond.

GIVEN UNDER THE SEAL OF THE TOWN OF RICHMOND THIS 19th DAY OF MAY, 2026


Kendra Tanguay
Town Clerk




Samantha Wilcox
Town Council President