

TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE

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**Burrillville Town Council Resolution
in opposition to
House Bill 2024 – H 7763 and Senate Bill 2024 – S 2679
Relating to Public Records – Access to Public Records Act**

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, that the Town Council of the Town of Burrillville strongly opposes House Bill 2024 – H 7763 and Senate Bill 2024 – S 2679.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Burrillville respectfully requests Burrillville legislators, the House Committee on State Government & Elections, the Senate Judiciary Committee, and the Rhode Island cities and towns to oppose House Bill 2024 – H 7763 and Senate Bill 2024 – S 2679.

Adopted this 27th day of March 2024.

Stephen N. Rawson, Vice President
Burrillville Town Council

ATTEST:

Vicki Martin, Town Clerk