



March 15th, 2023

Dear House Judiciary Committee:

I am a Rhode Island voter and representative from COYOTE RI writing to you today in strong opposition to H5756

We urge you to vote NO on H5756 which seeks to amend the Rhode Island general laws on the production and distribution of sexually explicit materials involving minors.

Existing statute has been effective in providing well defined standards of criminal conduct involving minors and punishment thereof. The proposal in H 5756 leaves terms key to enforcement of the measure, including *obscene, lewd, and lascivious* and *serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value*, undefined. This leaves what constitutes criminal conduct open to subjective interpretation, with no clear standard for those who seek to adhere to the measure or mount an affirmative defense.

This bill could also limit materials that could be used to teach sex education, and it could limit the content medical providers could use in educational and training material.

Please vote NO on H5756

.

Thank you for your consideration,

Bella Robinson, Executive director
COYOTE RI (401) 525-8757
43 Old Carriage Rd West Warwick, RI 02893
bella@coyoteri.org

COYOTE RI Call Off Your Old Tired Ethics, Rhode Island (COYOTE RI) is a group of current and former sex workers and sex trafficking survivors working on "policy" for improved health and safety for people in Rhode Island's sex industry. Learn more at www.coyoteri.org