



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



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Michael D. Évora, Esquire
Executive Director

**Statement from the Rhode Island Commission for Human Rights Regarding
Protections for Transgender and Non-Binary Individuals**

The Rhode Island Commission for Human Rights (Commission) affirms its commitment to the enforcement of laws protecting those who live in, work in or visit Rhode Island against discrimination on the basis of gender identity/expression. The Commission enforces state antidiscrimination laws in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodations and credit.

Rhode Island has long been a leader in protecting and advancing the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community. The state legislature amended the state's antidiscrimination laws in 1995 to explicitly prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and in 2002 to explicitly prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender identity/expression.

The Commission will continue to enforce these laws by accepting, investigating and deciding allegations of discrimination against transgender and non-binary individuals. *Regardless of changes in federal policy*, the law in Rhode Island is clear that employers, housing providers, places of public accommodation and credit providers may not discriminate against people based on their gender identity/expression. Our office is committed to ensuring that Rhode Island remains a safe and supportive place for non-binary and transgender people. We are proud to do this work on behalf of all Rhode Islanders.

Anyone who believes they have been discriminated against is encouraged to reach out to our office as indicated below:

For discrimination in **housing**: richr.housing@richr.ri.gov

For discrimination in **employment, public accommodations or credit**:
richr.info@richr.ri.gov

For general information about the Commission, visit: www.richr.ri.gov, or call 401.222.2661, Voice Relay 7-1-1

Contact: Michael D. Évora, Executive Director, michael.evora@richr.ri.gov