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ACLU OF RI POSITION: SUPPORT

TESTIMONY ON 22-H 7511, AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS – MINIMUM WAGES March 16, 2022

Similar to another bill being heard tonight which would ensure that domestic workers would be subject to minimum wage laws, another inappropriate exemption in our general laws currently exists for individuals with disabilities, who legally can be paid a subminimum wage for their employment and work. This law is flagrantly discriminatory and has the untoward effect of limiting the economic mobility of individuals with disabilities.

It is far past time for unfair and prejudicial statutes such as this to be repealed. As a matter of equity for individuals with disabilities, we strongly support this legislation which would remove this exemption from state law.

Thank you for your consideration.