

**RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Title of Rule: Inmate Mail (240-RICR-10-00-1)

Rule Identifier: 240-RICR-10-00-1

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: April 24, 2025

Hearing Date: May 9, 2025

End of Public Comment: May 27, 2025

Rulemaking Authority:

R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-56-10(22)

Powers of the director; R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-56-1

Declaration of Policy.

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

This rule is being refiled by the agency pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-4.1 with the purpose of promulgating rules and guidelines governing inmate correspondence at the RIDOC. The Department seeks to establish an amendment to 240-RICR-10-00-01 Inmate Mail to enhance safety, security, and operational efficiency within its facilities. RIDOC is experiencing an unprecedented need for more efficient and effective measures to detect and address potential threats related to contraband. These materials pose significant risks to facility security and the health of both staff and incarcerated individuals. Utilizing mail scanners will allow the Department to strengthen its ability to detect contraband and prevent it from entering the facilities. The Department also aims to improve the efficiency of mail processing and enhance the overall security of the facilities.

Additional Information and Public Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed amendment until May 27, 2025 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Lindsey Hughes
Department of Corrections
18 Wilma Schesler Lane
Policy & Auditing Unit
Cranston, RI 02920
DOC.Policy@doc.ri.gov

Public Hearing:

A public hearing, in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.5, to consider the proposed amendment shall be held at which time and place all persons interested therein will be heard. This hearing is subject to R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-46, Open Meetings.

Public Hearing Information:

Date: May 9, 2025

Time: 10:00 A.M.

Location: 1 Capitol Hill
Powers Building
Conference Room A
Providence, RI, 02908

The place of the public hearing is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captioners) is needed, or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please call 401-222-2000 or RI Relay 711 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance at no cost to the person requesting. For questions regarding available parking, please contact the agency staffperson listed above.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

Please see the attached Benefit Cost Analysis.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation contact the agency staffperson listed above.