

PRESS RELEASE

Gordon Proposes Independent Constitutional Advocate to Give All Rhode Islanders a Voice in the Attorney General's Office

Proposal would establish independent oversight, preserve dissenting opinions, investigate complaints, and test potential taxpayer savings.

October 8, 2026

Gordon Proposes Independent Constitutional Advocate to Give All Rhode Islanders a Voice in the Attorney General's Office

Gordon and Rev. Dr. Anne Armstrong invite Democratic opponent Kimberly Ahern to collaborate on a music video explaining the proposal.

RHODE ISLAND — Republican candidate for Attorney General Alan Gordon has unveiled a proposal to establish an Office of the Minority Constitutional Advocate, designed to ensure that important legal and constitutional concerns receive independent consideration regardless of which political party controls the Attorney General's Office.

The majority elects the Attorney General. The minority keeps an independent voice.

Under Gordon's plan, a five-person office would operate within the Attorney General's department with an independent review function, providing a formal mechanism for challenging questionable decisions, investigating complaints, and preserving dissenting legal opinions in the official record.

The Advocate would attend major policy discussions, evaluate potential constitutional problems before decisions are finalized, and issue Minority Reports that become part of the permanent record.

The office would also receive complaints from Rhode Islanders who believe they have been treated unfairly by the Attorney General's Office, investigate credible allegations of prosecutorial misconduct, and, where legally permitted, bring findings before a court through retained counsel.

The Advocate would have no authority to direct criminal prosecutions, veto the Attorney General, or override judicial decisions.

HOW RHODE ISLAND COULD BENEFIT

Constitutional accountability: Important decisions would receive independent legal scrutiny before they become official policy.

Protection against abuses of power: Citizens would have a dedicated channel for complaints about the Attorney General's Office itself.

Greater transparency: Formal Minority Reports would preserve significant legal disagreements instead of allowing them to disappear from the record.

Prosecutorial integrity: Independent investigations could identify failures to disclose evidence, misleading presentations, conflicts of interest, or other serious procedural concerns.

Fiscal accountability: A Taxpayer Savings Ledger would document whether improved oversight reduces unnecessary litigation, settlements, and other avoidable expenditures.

A THREE-YEAR PILOT WITH A MEASURABLE BUDGET

\$950,000 annual proposed budget · \$2.85 million over three years

Gordon proposes financing the office through existing Attorney General general-revenue resources legally available for reallocation, rather than seeking a new statewide appropriation.

The pilot would be evaluated based on documented results, including complaints resolved, policies improved, investigations completed, judicial filings accepted, and verified taxpayer savings.

Making the office permanently independent, or granting it additional legal powers, could require subsequent legislative or constitutional action.

AN INVITATION TO MAKE MUSIC TOGETHER

In an unusual gesture of political cooperation, Rev. Dr. Anne Armstrong has invited Democratic Attorney General candidate Kimberly Ahern to join her and Gordon in making a music video explaining the proposal and celebrating the principle of constitutional neutrality.

Armstrong envisions an upbeat, humorous production in which opposing candidates demonstrate that political disagreement need not prevent cooperation on the principles of constitutional government.

Ahern was invited on October 8 to review the proposal and consider participating. Her endorsement was not requested as a condition of participation, and Armstrong and Gordon are awaiting her response.

The proposed collaboration would provide an opportunity to demonstrate the very principle underlying the Minority Constitutional Advocate: competing political perspectives can be heard without surrendering their independence.

READ THE COMPLETE PROPOSAL

Gordon has published a detailed webpage explaining the proposed office, including its responsibilities, limitations, organizational structure, funding model, one-page summary, and full policy paper.

<https://alangordonri.com/minority-constitutional-advocate/>

Includes the one-page summary and full policy paper

###

Alan Gordon for Rhode Island Attorney General
Liberty and Justice for All

Paid for by Alan Gordon for Attorney General | <https://alangordonri.com/>