

Chris O'Brien

From: michael mello <mello4579@yahoo.com>
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To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Written testimony 5053

Hello,

My name is Michael Mello Bill number 5053 and I am for this Bill

I was one of the 3 men that was on the Mt. Hope Bridge on December 1st 2019 that helped save that girl. It was around 10pm when I had seen the girl walking in the Bridge and when I had made the call to Bristol PD. I had noticed the driver of the vehicle in front of me trying to talk to the girl and i did not know what was going on at this time. When I had asked him if he knew her , he responded no. It was at this moment when she started climbing up on the ledge of the Bridge . The guy behind me ran towards her luckily grabbing her shirt as the person in front of my grabbed her arm.

I jumped up on the ledge and grabbed her other arm. She was kicking and screaming to let her go. We held on to her as she was hanging off the side of the ledge. Luckily a portsmouth police officer made his way and reached down to grab her leg and helped us pull her back over.

This was a really scary night for me and shook me up pretty good for a while. Just a little about myself is that I am a combat veteran having been deployed overseas and I am a local from Warren RI. I have been seen some bad things in my life. If we weren't there for this young girl who knows what would of happened. Growing up in the area I've heard numerous stories about people jumping off that bridge. There was an incident in October and November that same year.

I've heard of people losing their lives on that Bridge that aren't even posted on the news. Many people have attempted suicide from that people and succeeded. Hopefully something can be done to prevent this in the future. Thanks

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