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Testimony on H 5936

An Act Relating to Education Health and Safety of Pupils – Trauma Informed Schools Act

April 28, 2021

Dear Chairperson McNamara & Members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

The Rhode Island Developmental Disabilities Council recognizes the effects of trauma on children and adults, and has been working to bring a system of trauma informed care to practitioners in Rhode Island over the past few years.

These efforts have included organizing a coalition to sponsor conferences and a website which has made information on Trauma Informed Care available to practitioners, educators and policymakers across the state. It has also led to the organizing of the *“Ocean State Trauma Informed Community Coalition.”*

The Council believes the passage of this bill will be one of the steps in reaching the goal of all thirty-nine Rhode Island cities and towns becoming Trauma Informed Communities to improve the efficacy of provided supports/services and quality of life for the children and adults in our local communities who have been impacted by trauma.

Sincerely,

Robert Marshall
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