

WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
HB 5043 (AZZINARO) & HB 5419 (O'BRIEN)

March 22, 2025

To: Chairman Joseph J. Solomon, Jr., and members of the House Corporations Committee

From: GinaMarie Doherty

Subj: HB 5043 (Azzinaro) & HB 5419 (O'Brien)

1. I am a Rhode Island Native and U.S. Navy veteran of 26 years. I served as the State Commander (2016-2017) of the Rhode Island Department of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. I am also a member of the American Legion, and the Disabled American Veterans.

2. I strongly SUPPORT House Bill No. 5043 (Azzinaro) which is identical to HB 6709 (Azzinaro) which was passed by the House during the 2024 legislative session. Veterans deserve to be protected. They sacrificed their freedom for us. Let's protect them.

2. I strongly OPPOSE House Bill Number 5419 (O'Brien) which was introduced on behalf of the for-profit, predatory, claim consultants... Veterans Benefits Guide (VBG) and Veterans Guardian (VG). It is well known that "if they don't care about flaunting federal AND state laws, then why would anyone expect them to follow the SAVE Act if passed into law?"

Respectfully,



GinaMarie Doherty