

January 19th, 2026

RE: Support for House Bill No. 7064

Dear Committee,

My name is Allison Round and I am a Marriage and Family Therapist at Brightside Behavioral Health in Warwick, Rhode Island. As a clinician, I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill No. 7064, which has the potential to positively impact stakeholders around the state.

HB 7064 reduces direct client contact hour requirements for licensure, strengthens role-specific training by requiring a portion of supervised experience to be with couples and families, and reduces unnecessary barriers to licensure portability across states. HB 7064 modernizes Rhode Island's LMFT licensure pathway by aligning direct client contact hour requirements with national and regional norms, strengthening role-specific training by requiring supervised experience with couples and families, and reducing unnecessary barriers to licensure portability across state lines.

This matters for Rhode Island's workforce and access to care. Rhode Island is a small state with a highly interconnected regional labor market; we routinely see residents who live, work, and seek care across state borders. In the digital age, reducing unnecessary licensure barriers supports continuity of care and makes it more feasible for clinicians to practice where Rhode Islanders need them most.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to support HB 7064.

Sincerely,
Allison Round
LMFT-A, Brightside Behavioral Health
Warwick, RI