

## Steven Sepe

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**From:** Lily Thornton <lilyboycethornton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 13, 2022 9:37 PM  
**To:** House Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Opposition to HB8310

Hello,

I'm Lily Thornton, and I use they/he/she pronouns interchangeably. I live in Cranston, Rhode Island. I'm writing to you tonight to inform you on my opposition to HB8310

I have so many friends who go to public schools. We are teenagers, and sometimes we do stupid stuff. When I do something stupid, a teacher helps me sort it out and I come out of the situation better. But with police officers in my friends' schools I can't say the same thing will happen for them. I work with an organization called Queer Youth Assemble, and right now I am trying to get SRO's out of schools. Not in. The police threaten and scare many people. It does not give a feeling of safety but one of fear. If I, a white Queer person feel afraid around police officers, my Black Queer friends feel even more scared. Students shouldn't be afraid to go to school.

Thank you,  
Lily Thornton  
they/he/she