

## Chris O'Brien

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**From:** Craig O'Connor <craig.r.oconnor@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 13, 2024 4:25 PM  
**To:** House Finance Committee  
**Cc:** Rep. Quattrocchi, Robert J.  
**Subject:** Support for H 7255

Dear Chair Abney and members of the House Finance Committee,

My name is Craig O'Connor. I am from Scituate, RI and my State Representative is Bob Quattrocchi.

I strongly support House Bill 7255 (Rep Alzate)..

Access to effective, affordable contraception is an important part of a person's health care, health and freedom. The ability to choose when and if one is to become a parent is central to a person's ability to live the life they want.

The ACA's provisions around no out-of-pocket charges for preventive care has been a positive for millions of Americans as they struggle with health care costs, rising housing costs, inflation and other economic challenges.

Ensuring access to long acting reversible contraception (LARCs), such as IUDs, is the best way to reduce unintended pregnancies.

This bill updates the existing Rhode Island state law mandating coverage of contraception enacted in 2000 in order to ensure access to all FDA-approved methods, limit insurer restrictions, and to ensure that the no-cost provision for over-the-counter contraception, and alternative therapies for those who need them, are more readily accessible

I strongly support passing House Bill 7255 to safeguard this critical ACA health insurance benefit, no copay birth control, and protect it in our state law. Preventive reproductive care — including birth control — is basic health care and everyone needs access to the contraceptive method that is right for their life. This is not just a health issue, it's an economic issue. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Craig O'Connor

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