

## Chris O'Brien

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**From:** Borch, Lynn (DOC) <Lynn.Borch@doc.ri.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 21, 2025 3:23 PM  
**To:** House Finance Committee  
**Subject:** HB 5765

Dear Mr. O'Brien,

I am writing to you regarding HB 5765. This bill would include putting Probation and Parole on par with MERS employee's related to retirement benefits. We are and always have been a "public safety" entity! Therefore, we should be included in this bill as such. Each and every person that we supervise could be considered a risk to public safety. We deal with the same exact individuals that the police departments and correctional officers deal with. The same exact people... and to take it one step further, we conduct unannounced home visits to ensure they are complying with any condition of probation and/or state statute.

Our whole identity as professionals in this division is to enhance the safety of the public by providing supervision to persons on probation and parole. We provide this by using the following:

1. Home visits with local police departments
2. Collaboration with local police departments
3. Collaboration with the State Police ICAC unit to determine if sex offenders are viewing child pornography or attempting to entice children.
4. GPS (Global Positioning System) on parolees and sex offenders. This is 24/7 supervision/ on call.
5. Collaborate with treatment providers and other officials.

Since we deal with the same individuals as police and corrections, we struggle with the same secondary trauma and burnout. This is **not** a job you should be required to work at into your 60's.

Best,

Lynn Borch  
Probation and Parole Supervisor  
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