



April 29, 2026

The Honorable Marvin L. Abney  
Chair, House Committee on Finance  
Rhode Island State House  
Providence, RI 02903

**Re: Written Testimony to Support 2026 – H7584**

Chair Abney and Members of the House Finance Committee:

My name is Michelle Loranger, and I submit this written testimony as the Executive Director of Day One.

Day One is pleased to offer strong support for H7584 – Relating to Criminal Procedure – Criminal Injuries Compensation.

For more than 53 years, Day One has provided comprehensive direct services to victims and survivors across the lifespan, including 24/7 Helpline and advocacy services, mental health counseling, and a nationally recognized, best-practice response to child abuse through our Children’s Advocacy Centers. Day One is also honored to serve as Rhode Island’s Sexual Assault Coalition and the Rhode Island Children’s Network—the state chapter of Children’s Advocacy Centers (CACs).

Having served thousands of Rhode Islanders over the years, we have seen firsthand how survivors depend on resources from Rhode Island’s Criminal Injuries Compensation Program to meet essential health, safety, and wellbeing needs following victimization.

The importance of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund has never been more urgent, particularly in light of reduced VOCA funding, increased demand for services, and rising costs for allowable expenses.

H7584 offers a critical and timely solution by strengthening this fund through a modest increase in traffic violation fines—an adjustment that will likely go unnoticed by most violators yet would have a meaningful and lasting impact on survivors.

Day One respectfully urges the Committee to support and advance H7584.

Thank you for your time, your commitment, and your leadership on these critical issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michelle Loranger".

Michelle Loranger, MPA  
Executive Director