

To Whom It My Concern,

I am writing in **STRONG** support of H8148, legislation that would require suicide prevention barriers on Rhode Island's major bridges.

This bill is **URGENTLY** needed to help prevent suicide deaths and reduce the devastating impact these tragedies have on families (**I lost my nephew who jumped from the Mt. Hope Bridge in 2023, after a previous attempt**), witnesses, first responders, and entire communities.

Suicidal crises are often brief and impulsive, and research shows that barriers on bridges **SIGNIFICANTLY** reduce deaths by providing a critical pause that can save lives. These interventions have been proven effective in other locations and should be implemented n Rhode Island.

I **URGE** you to support and PASS H8148.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathy Lowry

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