

AFFIDAVIT / SHORT ORAL STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

HB 7690 – Child Support Pass-Through

Speaker: Michael Pelletier

My name is **Michael Pelletier**, and I am a Rhode Island father who has spent years navigating Child Support across both Rhode Island and Massachusetts. I'm submitting this affidavit-style statement, and I'm prepared to read it aloud today, in **full support of HB 7690**.

In my own case, the cross-state issues have been some of the hardest. I've had situations where Rhode Island said one thing, Massachusetts said another, and neither system could clearly explain where my payments were going or who was actually receiving them. I've had payments delayed, misapplied, or held without warning. And when you're a father trying to stay consistent and present for your child, that kind of confusion is overwhelming.

There were times when I believed I was fully supporting my child, only to learn later that the money never reached them because it was being retained or redirected somewhere in the process. That creates conflict between parents, damages trust, and leaves children with less than what both parents intended. I've lived that firsthand, and I've seen many other fathers go through the same thing.

HB 7690 addresses one of the core problems behind these experiences. When the state retains support payments, families receive less than fathers believe they are providing. This bill ensures that more of that support actually reaches the child — where it belongs.

From everything I've lived through in my own cross-state case, and everything I've seen other fathers face, this is the kind of practical, meaningful change that makes a real difference. It increases transparency, reduces conflict, and helps parents understand where their money is going. Most importantly, it helps children.

Based on my firsthand experience and my understanding of how these systems affect real families, I fully support HB 7690 and believe it will improve outcomes for fathers, mothers, and children across Rhode Island.

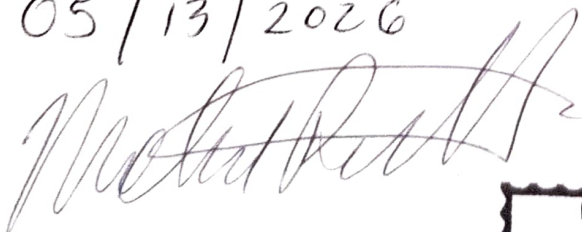
I respectfully ask the committee to recommend passage of this bill.

Signed,

Michael Pelletier

Portsmouth, Rhode Island

05/13/2026



On 5/13/2023
Michael Pelletier
appeared before me.

Paula Vollaro
Paula Vollaro

