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From: **Karen Hollands** <khollands39@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, May 13, 2026 at 12:27 PM

Subject: Please Support H8171 – Relating to Health and Safety - Food As Medicine Task Force

To: rep-abney@rilegislature.gov,rep-slater@rilegislature.gov,rep-marszalkowski@rilegislature.gov,rep-alzate@rilegislature.gov,rep-baginski@rilegislature.gov,rep-biah@rilegislature.gov,rep-cortvriend@rilegislature.gov,rep-diaz@rilegislature.gov,rep-edwards@rilegislature.gov,rep-finkelman@rilegislature.gov,rep-hull@rilegislature.gov,rep-nardone@rilegislature.gov,rep-obrien@rilegislature.gov,rep-roberts@rilegislature.gov,rep-tanzi@rilegislature.gov,agarofalo@rimeals.org,mgrady@rimeals.org,housefinance@rilegislature.gov

Dear Chairman Abney and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of SACRI and as a constituent from North Scituate, I write in strong support of H8171, the Food As Medicine Pilot Program Act.

This legislation establishes a Food As Medicine Task Force to guide a targeted Medicaid pilot program. It builds on existing programs in Rhode Island and ensures future investments are data-driven and fiscally responsible.

I am fortunate to have access to good, nutritious food which definitely contributes to my overall good health and I am a firm believer that eating well has so many positive advantages. If nutritious food is available to everyone I am certain we would see an increase in wellness and a decrease in many illnesses, both physically and mentally.

I respectfully urge the committee to support and pass H8171.

Sincerely,

Karen E Hollands

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