

Dear Chairman Abney and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Meals on Wheels of Rhode Island, and as a constituent from North Kingstown, I write in strong support of H8171, the Food As Medicine Pilot Program Act.

My name is Stefanie Abate and I am a member of the Development Committee of the Meals on Wheels of RI Board of Directors. This is a cause that is very important to me since it supported my grandmother when she was in her mid-nineties and still living independently.

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.

As a healthcare professional, I've learned how important it is to ensure that people have access to healthy food.

I respectfully urge the committee to support and pass H8171.

Sincerely,

Stefanie Abate

Development Committee Member, MOWRI

Sent from my iPad