

May 13, 2026

The Honorable Chairman Marvin Abney
Honorable Members of the House Committee on Finance
State House
Providence, RI 02903

RE: Support for H8180—Children’s Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS)

Good afternoon:

I am writing today in strong support of H8180 because families like mine need a system we can rely on when our children are in crisis. By creating a funding model that brings payers together, this bill helps ensure that services like Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS) are available to all families, when they need them most. It also ensures there are staff in place providing these services through a consistent funding source.

My name is Laura Jaworski, parent of a 13 year old child here in Rhode Island. In December 2023, my family directly benefited from the MRSS program while my son was enrolled in the East Providence School District. Like many families, we had experienced moments where our child was struggling emotionally or behaviorally, and we didn’t know where to turn.

Too often, families are left navigating a complicated system, making multiple calls, or ending up in the emergency room because there are no other options. In those moments, what matters most is having someone respond quickly, come to your home, and help stabilize the situation—without delays, confusion, or barriers. When families don’t have access to this kind of support, situations can escalate quickly.

H8180 is about creating a system that meets families where they are—in their homes, in their communities, and in their most difficult moments. It gives parents like me peace of mind knowing that we are not alone, and that there is a team we can call who will show up and help.

The MRSS supports were an essential part of my son’s ability to remain in the community and continue attending school - and wanting to be there - through supporting his mental health needs and as an advocate within the elementary school setting.

Thanks to the MRSS team, my son is thriving - which is what we all want, for all children.

Sincerely,



Laura Jaworski
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