



State of Rhode Island
Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos

May 19, 2026

The Honorable Marvin Abney
Chair, House Finance Committee
82 Smith St
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Letter of Support for HJR8533: Joint Resolution Making An Appropriation Of \$320,000 For Better Lives Rhode Island

Dear Chair Abney:

I write to you in support of JR8533: Joint Resolution Making An Appropriation Of \$320,000 For Better Lives Rhode Island. Appropriates \$320,000 to Better Lives Rhode Island in support of the transitional housing program for women leaving incarceration.

Since 1974, Better Lives Rhode Island has worked side by side with individuals and families in Providence and beyond—offering food, hope, and a path forward. As a nonprofit rooted in downtown Providence, they support neighbors across Elmwood, West End, Mount Pleasant, Silver Lake, and South Providence with practical, compassionate care. As the former President of the Providence City Council, I had the privilege of working with them to help advocate for increased care and services in our neighborhood.

This allocation put forth will have a substantial impact on women leaving the criminal justice system, helping them accessing housing and other important services. For these reasons, I urge you to vote this bill favorably out of committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sabina Matos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sabina Matos

Rhode Island Lieutenant Governor

CC: Representative David Morales