

Ruarri Miller
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Rhode Island General Assembly,

My name is Ruarri Miller. As a father of three breastfed boys and the spouse of a family physician, I strongly support House Bill 5861. This bill mandates insurance coverage for licensed certified lactation counselor (CLC) services, removes unnecessary supervision requirements, and ensures annual reporting.

From personal experience, breastfeeding can present significant challenges. Easier access to certified lactation counselors would have made a crucial difference for my family, particularly during the critical early months. Professional lactation support often determines whether families can continue breastfeeding successfully.

CLCs provide essential, independent lactation support in diverse settings such as homes, community centers, and health programs. HB 5861 addresses current healthcare coverage gaps, ensuring equitable lactation support access. By eliminating redundant supervision and duplicate payment requirements, the bill simplifies access to timely care.

Breastfeeding significantly improves health outcomes for both infants and mothers. Passing HB 5861 is an important investment in our community's health and well-being. I urge you to support this bill.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

