Steven Sepe

From: Gretchen Pauley, LICSW < gretchenpauley@gretchenpauley.com>

Sent: Monday, March 31, 2025 6:52 PM

To: Rep. Donovan, Susan R; House Health and Human Services Committee; Rep. Giraldo.

Joshua J.; Rep. Potter, Brandon C.; Rep. Ackerman, Mia A.; Rep. Bennett, David A.; Rep. Boylan, Jennifer; Rep. Cotter, Megan L.; Rep. Fogarty, Kathleen A.; Rep. Handy, Arthur; Rep. Hopkins, Marie A.; Rep. Kislak, Rebecca M.; Rep. McGaw, Michelle E.; Rep. Place,

David J.; Rep. Speakman, June; Rep. Stewart, Jennifer A.

Subject: Support for House Bill 5863 - Behavioral Health Reimbursement Rates

Dear Chairwoman Donovan & Members of the House Health & Human Services Committee:

I am writing in support of House Bill 5863, related to behavioral health reimbursement rates. This legislation is urgently needed to address the workforce shortages, client wait times and mental health provider quality of life concerns. Please review my <u>attached testimony</u>.

Thank you in advance for giving this matter your utmost attention as Rhode Island, like the nation, continues to face an epidemic of health and mental health challenges.

I welcome you to contact me with any questions or for further testimony.

Warm regards,

Gretchen Pauley Streeter, LICSW

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