

Dear Chairwoman Murray and Members of the House Health & Human Services Committee,

My name is Kate Walker and I am the co- owner of Compassionate Care Counseling in Lincoln. I am writing to express my strong support for H- 5863 regarding behavioral health reimbursement rates.

I am in support of H-5863 because it directly impacts my business and the quality of services we are able to provide. We are a small private practice & provide mental health therapy to individuals, couples and families. We are paneled with most commercial insurances and service a large medicaid population. Many private practices elect not to take insurance due to the low rates, the hassle of chasing reimbursement and the excessively complicated process. Current rates do not account for the additional labor that goes into direct care and should incorporate rising costs of living. We are trying to meet the growing need for therapists who still take insurance and would like to see rate increases to reflect the work we put in.

I hope the House Health & Human Services Committee will pass H- 5863

Kate Walker, LICSW
Co-Owner & Therapist
Compassionate Care Counseling LLC
1525 Old Louisquisset Pike
Building B Suite 104
Lincoln, RI 02865
<https://www.cccounselingri.com>