

## Steven Sepe

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**From:** Christopher Little <christopherhlittle@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2025 8:46 AM  
**To:** House Health and Human Services Committee  
**Subject:** Support for H6118

Dear Chairwoman Donovan and Committee Members;

Thank you for allowing me to submit this message in strong support of H6118, which provides a very cost effective means of helping to address the needs of children and youth, confronted by severe mental crises, to have access to their families' commercial insurance to pay for Mobile Response and Stabilization Services, just as is the case for those enrolled in Medicaid.

This program has already proven its effectiveness over the past few years in providing rapid response, assessment, and early intervention for children and youth experiencing severe behavioral health challenges. And with a cost of only \$135 per day, commercial insurance carriers will avoid the very high costs of congregate care and emergency room visits.

According to KIDS Count, 49% of Rhode Island's children are covered by their parents' commercial health insurance. I live in South Kingstown, where commercial health insurance is quite prevalent and the need for this legislation is even more compelling.

As someone who has been deeply involved in local and statewide healthcare issues and organizations, including service as a board member of Tides Family Services, I can attest to the need for this program and for its benefits to be accessible by all children and youth in need.

Thank you.

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