

H7577
Jennifer Lima
Support

Chair Craven:

I want to thank you for being one of the sponsors of H7577. I am writing today in strong support. I stand with our health care providers and their patients in support of this important legislation. This legislation is about Rhode Island's ability to protect health care providers, patients and access to essential care. The bill protects established, best-practice medical care that is legal in Rhode Island and ensures our local providers and health care infrastructure aren't negatively impacted by hostile laws in other states.

More than 20 states have enacted bans on essential, established medical care which exert extraordinary control over people's lives and **even impose civil and criminal penalties on providers for practicing medicine in line with the professional standards of care. These bans have the potential to cross state lines and impact providers here.** This legislation will protect providers, their patients, and ensure the viability of the health delivery system.

Rhode Island has a strong public policy commitment to protecting access to health care, including reproductive and transgender health care. I appreciate the support the legislature has shown the provider community in the past and respectfully request your continued support through passage of this vital legislation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Lima
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