

Chairperson Robert Craven
House Judiciary Committee
Rhode Island House of Representatives
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

March 5, 2024

RE: H7577 the Health Care Provider Shield Bill.

Dear Chair Craven and Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

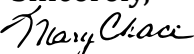
I **strongly support** this bill - the Health Care Provider Shield Bill.

Across the country many states have passed laws that ban or severely restrict access to essential health care to individuals - including reproductive services (like abortion), and transgender care. Not content to criminalize their own citizens, many of the states are attempting to go after the personnel in states where these services are legal (i.e. medical providers who have rendered services in the provider's state for citizens of the states where the services are banned.)

I believe it critical for Rhode Island to protect its healthcare care providers from the insidious and misguided policies that other states are trying to impose on us. We rely on the expertise and compassion of our providers for our their valuable services making us healthier. We certainly want to protect them, and we don't want to risk losing more of them because of their fear of civil and criminal penalties.

I urge the Committee to **pass this bill** and send it to the floor of the House for a vote!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Chace
7 Whipple Ave.
Riverside, RI 02915

