

April 6th, 2025

House Judiciary Committee

Rhode Island State House

Providence, RI 02903



Dear Chair Craven and Committee Members,

My name is Joseph Burgio, Director of Rhode Island Atheists. I am writing to ask you to reject House Bills H5295, H5296 and H5661. These bills are thinly veiled attempts to insert anti-choice laws into our state government. Rhode Islanders have spoken and 70% overwhelmingly reject any attempt, like these, to limit or control a woman's right to have an abortion. Consequently, all matters regarding the abortion belong to the woman and her doctor.

Rhode Island Atheists views these repeated attempts to curtail abortion as a religious freedom issue and we stand firm against any pro-life bills. These bills are unnecessary and attempt to advance a deception regarding abortion while stigmatizing medical professionals and creating a hostile medical environment. The true aim of these bills is not based on science, medicine or ethics, but rather come from a place of politics and ideology, where the health and welfare of women are no concern. Anti-abortion bills do not deserve a moment of consideration in our statehouse. Please reject these bills.

Joseph Burgio

Director

Rhode Island Atheists

RIAtheists.com