



# OCEAN STATE CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

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April 7, 2025

Representative Robert Craven  
Chair, House Judiciary Committee  
Rhode Island State House, 82 Smith Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903

**RE: H 6122**

Dear Chair Craven and Members of the Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Ocean State Center for Independent Living (OSCIL), RI's GO-TO resource Center for disability services, information & resources since 1988. As part of our mission to remove the attitudinal & physical barriers that prevent the full inclusion of individuals with disabilities, OSCIL supports H6122.

Given the current uncertainty of civil rights protections afforded to individuals with disabilities under Sec 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, it is critical for the state of RI to protect the civil rights of Rhode Islanders with disabilities through state law. For example, the Texas vs Becerra court case seeks to rule Sec 504 unconstitutional. In addition, the proposed dismantling of the Administration on Community Living (ACL), which was created to improve and coordinate delivery of essential services and supports, threatens protections and infrastructure for integrated, community-based living for people with disability.

H6122 will ensure that individuals with disabilities in RI will continue to have access to places such as schools, hospitals, and doctors' offices and legal recourse if an individual feels as though they were discriminated against.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Beth Pinkham, Associate Director  
OSCIL