



Planned Parenthood of Southern New England

**Testimony in Support of 26-H 7360,
AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE - PROTECT OUR COURTS ACT
House Committee on Judiciary
Hannah Stern - Director, Public Policy and Government Relations
Planned Parenthood of Southern New England
March 4, 2026**

Dear Chair McEntee and honorable members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

In my capacity as the Director, Public Policy and Government Relations at Planned Parenthood of Southern New England (PPSNE), I appreciate the opportunity to submit this testimony **in support of House Bill H 7360**. PPSNE provided sexual and reproductive health care to nearly 10,000 Rhode Island patients last year and believes all people should have access to quality, affordable, and compassionate health care as a basic human right — regardless of who you are, where you live, your income, if you have health insurance or your immigration status.

People achieve reproductive freedom when they have full autonomy over their bodies and lives – this not only includes access to health care, but the ability to live in communities that are not over-policed; the ability to live without fear of having families torn apart; and to live without fear of harm from discriminatory policies. This legislation would ensure that individuals are assured that, while engaging with court-related activities, they will not suffer severe immigration consequences as collateral damages of complying with court processes. Especially for immigrants who are victims of crimes – particularly of offenses such as domestic abuse or domestic violence – safe access to courts may be one of the factors in deciding whether to seek assistance for justice from the government or whether to forgo help.

In line with PPSNE’s dedication to fighting for policies that comprehensively protect the lives of all Rhode Islanders as a way of ensuring that our patients, and our communities, have the resources they need to live healthy, safe, and self-determined lives, we urge support for H 7360.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

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