



STATE of RHODE ISLAND
Executive Department
GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
John O. Pastore Center, 41 Cherry Dale Court
Cranston, RI 02920-3049
[voice] (401) 462-0110 [tty] via RI Relay 711 [fax] 462-0106
[e-mail] elisabeth.hubbard@gcd.ri.gov
[website] www.disabilities.ri.gov

Legislative Impact Statement

To: Chairperson Representative Carol Hagan McEntee
From: Elisabeth Hubbard, Executive Secretary
Re: **26 House 7759 -- AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RIGHTS OF NURSING HOME PATIENTS**

March 10, 2026

The Governor's Commission on Disabilities' Legislation Committee has developed a Legislative Impact Statement on the bill listed below. The Commission would be pleased to present testimony to the committee. Please contact me (462-0110) for additional information.

The Commission finds this bill beneficial.

This bill allows individuals or the estate to sue for violations of the rights of a nursing home patient. There currently exists a civil violation and penalty, but it is not currently enforceable by an individual, only the state. This would allow an individual or their estate to pursue the cause of action on their own.

We find this beneficial as it will enable individuals to assert their own rights without having to rely on state intervention and the actions of the Department of Health to enforce complaints. We also believe this will lead to better compliance, as complaints will be heard more often and more quickly.