



**State of Rhode Island  
Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos**

March 9, 2026

Representative Carol Hagan McEntee  
Chair, House Judiciary Committee  
82 Smith St, House Lounge  
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Letter of Support for HB7759: An Act Relating To Health And Safety -- Rights Of Nursing Home Patients

Dear Representative McEntee:

I write to you in support for each HB7759: An Act Relating To Health And Safety -- Rights Of Nursing Home Patients.

As the Chair of the Long-term Care Coordinating Council, I work with healthcare providers and advocates throughout the state to ensure older Rhode Islanders have access to the highest-quality care possible. Care providers work hard to ensure those in their care are safe, but when a mistake or negligence occurs, those patients deserve a cause of action that remedies it.

Nursing home patients in the State of Rhode Island have rights guaranteed by law, listed under Chapter 23-17.5 of the General Laws. This bill amends that law to allow any person, including any estate, to act or pursue legal remedy against any nursing home found to be in violation of Chapter 23-17.5. HB7759 helps to ensure that a nursing home patient's rights are preserved and allows for legal remedies in case these rights are violated.

On behalf of older adults across Rhode Island, and in light of my experience as Chair of the Long-term Care Coordinating Committee, I urge you to favorably vote this bill out of committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sabina Matos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sabina Matos

Rhode Island Lieutenant Governor

CC: Representative Rebecca Kislak