



Rev. G. W. Blake Blakesley III

House Committee on Judiciary
State of Rhode Island
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

RE: In Support for House Bill H7206

Dear Chair McEntee and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary,
I am writing in support of House Bill H7206. I am so encouraged that this vital bill is finally moving forward. I hope that you will continue to consider the extreme importance of moving this bill to a vote on the floor. It is so important that victims of assault feel free to come forward and tell the truth about what was done to them without fear of reprisal.

In my career as a pastor and a counselor I have heard so many accounts of senseless attacks and abuse and in most of these reports there is fear of the stigma of being a victim. Nothing can remove the horror of such actions but this bill takes a much-needed step to at least free the abuse victim from the fear of court action. Whatever we can do to assist in their recovery should be done.

Please, please in your busy agendas, keep making time to push this bill forward to a full vote. It is a worthy step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Rev. George W. Blake Blakesley III
Presbyterian Church (USA)