

## Ariana Costa

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**From:** Jonathan Newkirk <noreply@not-the-end.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 3, 2026 5:43 PM  
**To:** Rep. Susan Donovan; Rep. Jennifer Boylan; Rep. June Speakman; Rep. Carson, Lauren H.; Rep. Tanzi, Teresa A.; Rep. Brandon Potter; Rep. Fogarty, Kathleen A.; Rep. Ajello, Edith H.; Rep. Patricia McGaw; Rep. Casimiro, Julie A.; Rep. Justine Caldwell; Sen. Bridget Valverde; House Judiciary Committee  
**Subject:** Constituent Letter Re: RI 2026 Bill H8069 — Shooting Range Suicide Prevention Signage

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Rep. Justine Caldwell and Sen. Bridget Valverde,

As a constituent and resident of East Greenwich, I am writing to express my opposition to RI 2026 H8069, the "Shooting Range Suicide Prevention Signage" bill, which requires shooting ranges to post 988 crisis hotline signs. While I understand the intent behind this bill, I strongly believe that it is not an effective solution to addressing the complex issue of suicide prevention in Rhode Island.

One of my primary concerns is that this bill may inadvertently stigmatize gun ownership and target law-abiding citizens who use shooting ranges for recreational purposes. Additionally, I worry that the cost of implementing and maintaining these signs will be passed on to shooting range owners, potentially leading to increased fees for users and negatively impacting local businesses. Furthermore, I am concerned that this bill may not be an efficient use of resources, as it may not reach the individuals who are most at risk of suicide. In my community, I have seen firsthand the importance of addressing mental health issues through comprehensive and targeted support services, rather than relying on a single solution like signage.

I urge you to consider the potential unintended consequences of this bill and vote against it. I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this issue further with you and explore alternative solutions that can effectively support mental health and suicide prevention efforts in Rhode Island.

With appreciation for your public service, Jonathan Newkirk East Greenwich