

April 5, 2026

Honorable Chair Hagan McEntee and members of the House Judiciary Committee:

I am writing to you in strong support for Representative Donovan's bill **H 8069** (AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES – WEAPONS).

H 8069 is a simple, reasonable law that will require privately owned shooting ranges, which currently operate with no laws, to post signage with contact information for the Suicide and Crisis hotline. It is possible that two recent, tragic gun suicides at a Tiverton shooting range may have been averted if such signage had been present. Suicide and Crisis hotline signage can be seen in public spaces all over Rhode Island, including schools, medical buildings, grocery stores, parks, and hiking trails. It only makes sense that hotline signs should be posted in shooting ranges, where firearms are prevalent.

H 8069 would also require shooting range employees to be trained to recognize the warning signs of suicide. Such training could also help prevent a distressed person from committing suicide.

I urge you to vote this bill out of committee and send it to the House Floor with a recommendation to pass **H 8069**. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Kristen P. Chambers
Richmond, RI