

March 4, 2026

Dear Chairperson Corvese and members of the House Labor Committee,

My name is Randi Braunstein and I am a Cumberland RI resident. I am writing to you in support of H-7968, a bill that is critical to the health and mental health of parents and newborns in RI.

As a psychotherapist, mother and grandmother, I can tell you from my clinical work with parents as well as personal experience how important this bill is. It is inconceivable and short sighted that Rhode Island offers the shortest paid family leave among the states that offer paid family leave. Research clearly tells us that longer paid leave leads to improved maternal health and mental health, improved parent-child attachment and positive parenting. Putting this bill in place would be a major step in supporting and improving the lives of families in RI.

I urge you to vote in favor of bill H-7968.

Thank you for all the work you are doing on behalf of Rhode Islanders!

Sincerely,

Randi Braunstein
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