

Roberta DiMezza

From: Shaina Smith <shaina.n.smith@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 1, 2023 3:36 PM
To: Rep. O'Brien, William W.; Rep. Serpa, Patricia A.; Rep. Azzinaro, Samuel A.; Rep. Corvese, Arthur J.; Rep. Diaz, Grace; Rep. Kazarian, Katherine S.; Rep. Kennedy, Brian Patrick; Rep. Marszalkowski, Alex; Rep. McNamara, Joseph M.; Rep. Newberry, Brian C.; Rep. Phillips, Robert D.; Rep. Place, David J.; Rep. Shanley, Evan P.; Rep. Slater, Scott; Rep. Costantino, Gregory J.
Cc: House Rules Committee
Subject: RE: House Bill 5131 | Suggested Amendments and Draft Language
Attachments: proposed language changes to H. 5131.docx; h 5131 letter to house rules committee.docx; TEMPLATE LETTER FOR PHYSICIANS CONFIRMING A PATIENT.docx

Honorable Chairwoman Fogarty and members of the House Rules Committee,

I have provided an attached letter which not only supports Representative Constantino's proposed legislation, H. 5131 with regards to *Medical Necessity Proxy Vote*, but expands on the request so as to not exclude existing House members or prospective constituents from running to represent their communities due to preexisting, chronic medical conditions or disability.

I've also enclosed language for your consideration when building upon Rep. Constantino's draft version, along with a template letter for providers to utilize from the Speaker's office to satisfy medical documentation. I am happy to also draft a proxy vote request form.

I urge the Committee to strongly consider the already vulnerable population of Rhode Island residents and its elected officials when amending the rules of the House of Representatives for the years 2021 and 2022. I welcome your input and questions and offer my expertise during this legislative session.

Respectfully,

Shaina Smith

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