



April 24, 2025

Dear Chair Shanley and Members, House State Government and Elections Committee,

Re: Support for H6165

On behalf of the Senior Agenda Coalition of Rhode Island (SACRI), I am pleased to support H6165, AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- STATE POLICE introduced by Representatives Spears, Noret, McEntee, Read, Cotter, Craven, Fogarty, Hull, Tanzi and Felix.

SACRI'S mission is to mobilize people to implement an agenda that improves the quality of life of older Rhode Islanders and adults with disabilities and their family caregivers. We accomplish this through *community organizing, public education, advocacy, and legislative action*. Promoting the health and safety of older persons and adults with disabilities is a priority for SACRI.

H6165 establishes a Purple Alert program via the RI State Police for missing adults with serious or substantial physical, behavioral health, neurological disability, or condition that objectively establishes concerns for the immediate safety and wellbeing of the missing person.

Rhode Island already has in place the Amber Alert system for missing children and the Silver Alert program for persons age 60 years and over with dementia or with impaired mental condition. It makes sense to also create the PURPLE Alert program for persons who do not fall under either of the existing alert notification programs. The safety and well-being of missing adults with chronic conditions as specified in the bill may be at immediate risk and a Purple Alert system can help in locating such individuals thereby preventing potential harm to their health and safety.

SACRI appreciates your consideration of our support and asks that you consider recommendation of passage of H6165

Sincerely,

Carol Costa, Executive Director
SACRI