

## Steven Sepe

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**From:** judy gray <grayjud@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 9, 2026 6:59 AM  
**To:** House Health and Human Services Committee  
**Cc:** Sen. DiMario, Alana; Rep. Spears, Tina L.; Allison Carley  
**Subject:** Support H7029 Allowing Nurses to Do Foot Care

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**TO:** Chair Donovan and members of the House Human Health Services Committee  
**CC:** Senator DiMario and Representative Spears  
**FM:** Judith Gray, Town of New Shoreham  
**RE:** Support for H7029  
**DATE:** February 8, 2026

Chair Donovan and honorable members of the House Health and Human Services Committee, my name is Judith Gray and I live in the Town of New Shoreham/Block Island. I am writing to urge you to support H7029 (Boylan), which would permit a nurse who has the appropriate knowledge and can demonstrate clinical competency to provide routine home foot care services.

When my father died and I took over care of my mother in 2018, it never occurred to me to check her feet. It was only after accompanying her to an annual physical several months later that I realized how bad they were: athlete's foot, nail fungus, ingrown nails, etc. As is often the case, there was no one in the family willing to get trained to work with Mom's feet including me. Foot care became an essential service for her ability to continue to age at home on Block Island. Thankfully, we were able to find someone with training who was privately willing to assist us with personal foot care on a regular basis. It is beyond my understanding that Rhode Island does not allow trained nurses to provide this essential service.

Rhode Islanders deserve access to safe, routine foot care in the home. Aging in place often requires family caregivers to step in and provide personal care for loved ones, including routine foot care. Family members often lack skill, knowledge, and confidence in safely providing this care. Passing this bill and allowing nurses to fill this gap is the humane thing to do to promote the health and wellness of the most vulnerable in our state. Residents and their caregivers in RI deserve access to these services. Rhode Island is the only state in the country preventing trained nurses from providing this care.

A nearly identical bill passed in the House unanimously in 2025. Please pass this bill out of committee and to the House floor with a recommendation for passage.

Sincerely,  
Judith Gray  
1192 Sands Pond Road, U745  
Town of New Shoreham

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Judy Gray

[grayjud@gmail.com](mailto:grayjud@gmail.com)

*"The most common way that people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any." – Alice Walker*