

## Steven Sepe

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**From:** Donna Conley <dmconley\_2001@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 6, 2026 11:21 PM  
**To:** House Health and Human Services Committee  
**Subject:** Do Not Close the Birthing Center at Newport Hospital

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April 6, 2026

Dear Honorable Members of the Rhode Island House and Senate,  
Please support legislation H8203, H7272, and H7626. Please do not let The Birthing Center at Newport Hospital close.

I am writing as a grandmother who does not live in Newport, but whose family's life has been deeply shaped by The Birthing Center at Newport Hospital.

My daughter built a meaningful career there as a nurse, dedicating herself to caring for mothers and babies in that community. It is rare to see a workplace that fosters both such high clinical standards and such deep compassion, and I have long been proud of the work done on that unit.

I have also experienced the center from another perspective—that of a grandmother. Both of my grandchildren were born there, and I saw firsthand the quality of care, the attentiveness of the staff, and the sense of safety that surrounded my family during those important moments.

Even from outside the immediate community, this is not just a hospital unit—it is a cornerstone of family life in Newport. It supports young families, sustains meaningful careers, and contributes to the strength and stability of the community.

Closing The Birthing Center would not only impact those giving birth—it would ripple outward to affect families, careers, and the broader network of people connected to this community.

Please protect this vital resource and keep The Birthing Center at Newport Hospital open.

Respectfully,

Donna Conley

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