

Steven Sepe

From: Sandra Gabriel <smgabriel_02842@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 12:21 PM
To: House Health and Human Services Committee
Subject: House Bills H8203, H7272, and H7626

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Dear Committee, I am writing in support of the above named House Bills to save The Birthing Center (TBC) at Newport Hospital.

I have been a nurse at TBC FOR 30 years and through those years I have seen this Unit evolve into a place of excellence that strives to support all moms and babies of Newport County and beyond. New and expecting parents know that they can call or come in to TBC anytime, day or night, for help and support without feeling like they are "bothering someone "

TBC offers prenatal classes, antenatal testing and breastfeeding support along with excellent maternity care. The patients that come there probably already know some of the staff long before they arrive to give birth.

TBC is a fully equipped unit that operates with a high level expertise with ongoing training and certification of the whole staff that can manage even the most high risk situations until appropriate transport can arrive if needed.

Newport is a community linked by bridges and high traffic areas that make them more vulnerable, especially for low income families.

Please be aware that if TBC is no longer available, it will put that community, as well as military families at a much greater risk than is necessary.

Thank you, Sandra Gabriel, RNC, IBCLCE (retired) Sent from my iPad