



Planned Parenthood of Southern New England

**Testimony in Support of 26-S 2786,
AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - SCHOOL COMPUTER DEVICE PRIVACY
Senate Committee on Education
Hannah Stern - Director, Public Policy and Government Relations
Planned Parenthood of Southern New England
April 8, 2026**

Dear Chair Gallo and honorable members of the Senate Committee on Education:

In my capacity as the Director, Public Policy and Government Relations at Planned Parenthood of Southern New England (PPSNE), I appreciate the opportunity to submit this testimony **in support of Senate Bill S 2786**. PPSNE provided sexual and reproductive health care to nearly 10,000 Rhode Island patients last year and believes all people should have access to quality, affordable, and compassionate health care as a basic human right — regardless of who you are, where you live, your income, if you have health insurance or your immigration status.

As federal attacks on sexual and reproductive health care escalate, it is incumbent upon our state to examine the ways that we can protect all residents who are seeking to exercise their rights and freedoms. One of the connections that has been particularly highlighted by these attacks is that between reproductive freedom and data privacy, and the need to ensure that the individual data being collected on each person is not used to determine or infer private information about a person.

Such is especially true for minors and students, who often are required to utilize school-loaned devices in the course of their educational career and who may not be aware of what these devices are revealing about their personal lives. A school, for example, who accesses the location data of a student and discovers that they have visited a Planned Parenthood health care clinic with their school-loaned device has discovered sensitive information about a student that is ultimately irrelevant to the educational benefits they are providing that student.

To the extent that this bill will continue to ensure that any data related to the health of students remains between themselves, their providers, and their trusted adults – and not

unnecessarily in the possession of a school or its administration – we are supportive of S 2786.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'H. Stern', is positioned above the typed name.

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