

TO: Members of Senate Finance Committee
FROM: Amy Herlihy
RE: Support for: S3058 Article 10 Sections 1 and 2 of the 2027 state budget
DATE: April 12, 2026

My name is Amy Herlihy and I live in Senator Lauria's district.

As a Rhode Island resident who cares deeply about mental health and suicide prevention, I am writing to ask you to please vote YES on S3058 Article 10 Sections 1 and 2 of the 2027 state budget for the 988, the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline in Rhode Island.

- 988 is a local lifeline, answering nearly 1,000 calls a month in RI.
- A \$0.50 monthly fee is less than the cost of two coffees a year.
- It protects our 98% in-state answer rate and supports our local BH Link centers.

The Rhode Island 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline answers nearly 1000 calls each month. The cost of the monthly fee (50 cents) is less than the cost of a coffee and it helps reduce healthcare spending with early intervention, reduce the burden on emergency rooms and law enforcement, save the state money, and improve outcomes for individuals experiencing a suicide or behavioral health crisis. In addition funding the lifeline protects out 98% in-state answer rate and supports our BH Link centers.

If passed, I firmly believe S3058 Article 10 Sections 1 and 2 of the 2027 state budget will support those in crisis and save lives. Thank you for your support and consideration.