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May 5, 2026

The Honorable Louis P. DiPalma  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
Rhode Island State House  
Providence, RI 02903

[SenateFinance@rilegislature.gov](mailto:SenateFinance@rilegislature.gov)

Support for Senate Resolution S 2848 – Appropriation to Sojourner House

Dear Chairman DiPalma and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Resolution S 2848, which provides a \$500,000 appropriation to Sojourner House to support its permanent supportive housing program.

Sojourner House plays a critical role in Rhode Island's response to domestic violence and sexual abuse. As outlined in the legislation, access to safe, stable housing remains one of the most significant barriers for individuals and families attempting to leave abusive situations. Without it, many are forced to remain in dangerous environments or face homelessness.

This proposal represents a meaningful investment in a proven model. Sojourner House has developed a robust statewide program that provides not only housing, but also the supportive services necessary to help survivors rebuild their lives. With more than 150 housing units across Rhode Island, the organization has demonstrated both scale and impact in addressing a complex and urgent need.

Importantly, this funding will help leverage federal resources and ensure continuity for individuals and families who rely on these services. At a time when supportive housing funding faces uncertainty, this appropriation provides stability and reinforces the State's commitment to protecting vulnerable populations.

This is a targeted, responsible investment that addresses the intersection of public safety, housing, and public health. By supporting Sojourner House, the State is helping to break cycles of violence, reduce homelessness, and strengthen communities across Rhode Island.

Thank you for your consideration of this important measure.

Sincerely,

Chief Sidney Wordell (ret.)  
Executive Director  
Rhode Island Police Chiefs Association