

TO: Chairwoman Melissa Murray and members of the Senate Health & Human Services Committee

FROM: Amy Herlihy

RE: Support for S2116

DATE: 3/1/2026

Chairwoman Murray and honorable members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee:

My name is Amy Herlihy and I live in Barrington.

I am writing to urge you to support S2116 (Urso), which would permit a nurse who has the appropriate knowledge and can demonstrate clinical competency to provide routine home foot care services. This bill would permit nurses to provide foot care to homebound individuals, including veterans. As the daughter of a veteran who was homebound, I know how valuable it is for veterans to receive the appropriate care that they need and deserve at home.

Rhode Islanders deserve access to safe, routine foot care in the home. Aging in place often requires family caregivers to step in and provide personal care for loved ones, including routine foot care. Family members often lack skill, knowledge, and confidence in safely providing this care. Passing this bill and allowing nurses to fill this gap is the humane thing to do to promote the health and wellness of the most vulnerable in our state. Residents and their caregivers in RI deserve access to these services. Rhode Island is the only state in the country preventing trained nurses from providing this care.

A nearly identical bill passed in the House in 2025. Please pass this bill out of committee and to the Senate floor with a recommendation for passage.

Sincerely,

Amy Herlihy

Barrington