

From: Ann Marie Metoharakis <annmariemeto@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 2:04 PM

To: SLegislation <slegislation@rilegislature.gov>

Subject: Chairwoman Melissa Murray Senate Committee on Health and Human Services Re: Senate Bill #2116

Chairwoman Melissa Murray

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

I am a registered nurse who retired in 2024 with 45 years of experience

My career included 16 years in

gerontology

My Hospital experience includes :

surgical/stepdown ,telemetry/medical stepdown ,primary care ,woman's health clinic ,oncology,GI,and telephone triage this includes 28 years at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Providence

I fully support H7029/S2116, which empowers qualified nurses to perform routine, non-invasive foot care in the home for homebound individuals.

The proposed legislation will meet the needs of many individuals who are incapable of caring for their own feet, and who, due to a myriad of circumstances such as immobility, disease process, transportation, or anxiety and depression, are unable to leave their homes to receive this care.

Nurses are well aware of the risks of podiatric care where comorbidities or vascular issues exist. We are trained to recognize these on assessment and make the proper podiatric referrals.

In routine cases, however, allowing nurses to provide basic care services will meet a real need in our communities, and may even become a welcome relief to podiatrists

who no longer have the time or capacity to make routine home visits, and perhaps lead to effective partnerships.

This bill would not only enable a qualified nurse to assess a client's condition, but also to provide a homebound patient with the basic footcare that they require and need.

Doing so may prevent unnecessary pain, reduced mobility, fall risks, fungal infections, and other unwanted outcomes of neglecting foot care and health.

Please give your utmost consideration to the passage of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Ann Marie Metoharakis, RN

East Providence RI