

From: Judith Caires <jcaires@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2026 11:53 AM
To: SLegislation <slegislation@rilegislature.gov>
Subject: Senate Bill S2116

FROM: Judith J. Caires

RE: Support for S2116

DATE: March 2, 2026

Chairwoman Murray, **David Bennet and Joe Shekarchi** and honorable members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee:

My name is Judith Caires and I live in Warwick, RI.

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. As someone who cared for a Parkinson's patient for 9 years I can't begin to describe how important this bill is and how it would effect many people who can't leave their homes with a positive impact.

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,

Judith J. Caires

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