



American Civil Liberties Union of RI  
American College of Nurse-Midwives  
American College of Obstetricians and  
Gynecologists  
Catholics for Choice  
GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD)  
Hope and Change Partnership  
Humanists of Rhode Island  
League of Women Voters, RI  
Medical Students for Choice  
National Council of Jewish Women, RI Action Team  
Perinatal Quality Collaborative  
Planned Parenthood of Southern New England  
Reproductive Health Access Project  
Resolve New England

RI Abortion Fund  
RI Academy of Family Physicians  
RI Atheists  
RI Black Business Association  
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
RI National Association of Social Workers  
RI National Organization for Women  
RI Pharmacists Association  
RI Psychiatric Society  
RI Religious Coalition for Reproductive Freedom  
RI State Council of Churches  
RI Working Families Party  
Sojourner House  
Upstream  
Women's Fund of Rhode Island

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**To:** Senator Melissa Murray, Chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services;  
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

**From:** Nicole Jellinek, Chair, Rhode Island Coalition for Reproductive Freedom

**Date:** April 6, 2026

**Re:** Support for Senate Bill 2254 RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND INSURANCE  
POLICIES

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services,

I am submitting testimony on behalf of the RI Coalition for Reproductive Freedom in support of Senate Bill 2254. Our Coalition, made up of 29 member organizations, works together to share resources, build strategies and coordinate efforts to connect reproductive freedom with social and economic justice. We recognize real inequalities in our state and we envision a RI where everyone has access to affordable and comprehensive reproductive health care.

We urge this Committee to pass this legislation in order to retain contraception as a preventive care service not subject to patient cost-sharing. One clear positive result of the ACA has been increased access to the most effective types of contraception, including long-acting, reversible contraception (LARC). According to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, over time LARC methods are 20 times more effective than birth control pills, the patch, or the ring. However, these options can be expensive. For example, prior to the ACA, placing an IUD could cost up to \$500, an amount that many found prohibitive due to the impact of high deductibles and other forms of cost-sharing. This legislation would only expand upon the revolutionary access that the ACA created to birth control methods by providing that all FDA-approved birth control options are covered by insurers.

Rhode Islanders deserve financial access to the birth control methods that are right for themselves and for their lives. This bill expands autonomy and reproductive freedom, and ensures that financial barriers do not prevent individuals from the health care that is best suited for them. We strongly urge support for S 2254.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "njellinek", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Nicole Jellinek, Chair, Rhode Island Coalition for Reproductive Freedom