

Dear Committee Chairwoman and Committee Members-

My name is Jim Kingston and I reside in Providence. I am writing in **SUPPORT of Senate bill 2255** and in OPPOSITION to Senate bills 2381, 2879, 2887, 3028 and 3088.

We all know of the Federal government cutbacks on various health care programs and the consequent increased costs to many of our neighbors. Health care coverage should not be based on whether one can pay for it, rather it is a basic right for all. These increased costs have already reduced the number of covered individuals and the problem will only get worse as more neighbors find the ongoing costs unaffordable. This bill S-2255 will help those most in need to be able to afford and continue their necessary health insurance coverage and I ask that you all vote in favor of this bill so that it can move to the full House for a vote.

I believe that Senate bill 2381 is proposed with the best of intentions. My opposition to Senate bill 2381 is based solely on the fact that I question whether the State should require insurance coverage for health care services that are known to be of demonstrably inferior quality related to neonatal mortality and injury rates of CPMs vs those of CNMs and CMs.