



TESTIMONY OF GLBTQ LEGAL ADVOCATES & DEFENDERS
In Opposition to Senate Bill 2382
An Act Relating to Insurance – Accident and Sickness Insurance Policies
Senate Health and Human Services Committee
April 14, 2026

Dear Chair Murray, Vice Chair Lauria, Secretary Urso, and honorable members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee:

Our names are Elizabeth Rodriguez-Ross and Patience Crozier. Patience Crozier serves as Director of Family Advocacy, and Elizabeth Rodriguez-Ross is a Staff Attorney at GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD Law). We write in opposition to S2382, An Act Relating to Insurance – Accident and Sickness Insurance Policies. While we appreciate the sponsors’ intent and commitment to expanding access to fertility healthcare, this legislation adopts a narrow approach by isolating a single component of care, rather than addressing the broader, outdated, and in some cases unlawful aspects of current state law governing access to fertility services.

As you know, GLAD Law is New England’s leading legal rights organization dedicated to working towards equality for LGBTQ people and people living with HIV. Central to that mission is ensuring equitable access to family-building healthcare. We are particularly concerned that S2382, by focusing so narrowly, risks reinforcing gaps in coverage that disproportionately impact LGBTQ+ individuals and others who already face systemic barriers to fertility care.

We respectfully urge the Committee to consider a more comprehensive approach. GLAD Law supports **S2460**, along with its companion bill **H7629**, addressing fertility care in a way that both achieves the goal of the current bill and ensures Rhode Island’s provisions meet the standard of care. The framework under S2460 works to modernize existing law, remedy outdated and unlawful provisions and appropriately defer to the clinical judgment of healthcare providers and the established standards of care set by the

American Society of Reproductive Medicine. By contrast, S2382 does not ensure alignment with these standards and may leave patients without access to clinically indicated services when recommended by a provider or consistent with professional guidelines.

Although we share the goal of expanding access to fertility care, S2382's limited scope ultimately undermines that objective. For these reasons, we respectfully request that the Committee not move this measure forward and instead prioritize measures that reflect and comply with the law and align with medical standards.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact either of us with questions or for additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

Patience Crozier, Director of Family Advocacy

Elizabeth Rodriguez-Ross, Staff Attorney

GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders

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