

4/1/2026

RE: Support for Senate Bill No. 3026

Dear Committee,

My name is Emily Petrarca, AMFT and I am a couple and family therapist working at Northeast Health Service in Attleboro, Massachusetts. I am currently working under a supervisor to become licensed in both Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

As a clinician who is personally and professionally affected by Rhode Island's current licensure requirements, I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill No. 3026, which has the potential to positively impact stakeholders around the state.

SB 3026 aligns direct client contact hour requirements for licensure with regional and national standards, strengthens role-specific training by requiring a portion of supervised experience to be with couples and families, and reduces unnecessary barriers to licensure portability across states. SB 3026 modernizes Rhode Island's LMFT licensure pathway by:

- Aligning direct client contact hour requirements with national and regional norms,
- Strengthening role-specific training by requiring supervised experience with couples and families, and
- Reducing unnecessary barriers to licensure portability across state lines.

These reforms support workforce stability and access to care in a small, interconnected region where many residents live, work, and seek services across state borders—especially in the digital age.

For the reasons listed above, I respectfully urge you to support SB 3026 and vote in its favor. Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,

Emily Petrarca, AMFT  
Couple and Family Therapist, Northeast Health Service  
Attleboro, Massachusetts