

**From:** [Claire Wicks-Tucker, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC](#)  
**To:** [Legislation](#)  
**Subject:** Written Testimony in Opposition to Senate Bill 3184  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 29, 2026 5:01:02 PM

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Written Testimony in Opposition to Senate Bill 3184  
Submitted by: Claire Wicks-Tucker, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC  
Rhode Island

Dear Chairwoman Murray and Members of the Committee,

I am a nurse practitioner currently practicing in primary care at Lotus Noire Health in Rhode Island, and I respectfully submit this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 3184.

I will also be starting a position with Brown University Health in Pediatric Genetics and Metabolism, where patients across the lifespan require timely, coordinated care for complex conditions.

Access to timely, high-quality healthcare is one of the most pressing issues facing patients in our state. In my clinical work, I see the impact of limited access every day, patients waiting weeks to establish care, struggling to obtain follow-up, and turning to urgent care or emergency departments for issues that should be managed in primary care.

These delays have real consequences. I have cared for patients with manageable conditions who could not access timely care, leading to worsening symptoms and avoidable escalation. This is not a system functioning at its best.

I am also developing a small Direct Primary Care practice designed to improve access, continuity, and patient-provider relationships, an approach built around expanding care, not restricting it.

Senate Bill 3184 moves in the wrong direction. Policies that add barriers or limit how nurse practitioners deliver care do not improve safety, they delay care, reduce availability, and increase strain on an already challenged system.

Rhode Island needs solutions that expand access, strengthen the primary care workforce, and support care models that prioritize time, continuity, and clinical judgment.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to oppose Senate Bill 3184.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Wicks-Tucker, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC  
Rhode Island