



March 25, 2026

Dear Respected Members of the General Assembly,

I am writing in support of Bills H8247 and S3099. These measures will strengthen Rhode Island's response to the opioid crisis by expanding access to evidence-based treatment and improving coordination of care.

The existence of substance-use treatment programs like the Galilee Mission, offering residential, intensive/outpatient and sober living programs are essential to helping individuals obtain recovery and to maintain sobriety. The policies in these bills will ensure providers can continue offering affordable and accessible care.

I also strongly support the shift from "drug court" to "recovery court." This change reduces stigma and better reflects a health-focused, rehabilitative approach that encourages engagement and supports long-term recovery.

On behalf of our clients, staff and families, I urge you to support and pass these bills. Your leadership is vital to the health and well-being of Rhode Islanders.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,

Lynn E. Serra

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Galilee Mission, Inc.