



March 25, 2026

Senator Senate LaMountain  
Chair, House Judiciary Committee  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

**Re: Support for S3099**

Dear Chairman LaMountain and Honorable Committee Members.

As Chief Operating Officer at VICTA and Policy Chair for the RI Association for Addiction Professionals, I am writing in support of S3099, which would change the name of Rhode Island's Drug Court to the more accurate term of Recovery Court.

When individuals are assigned to this specific path within the criminal legal system, the goal is to help support them in finding recovery from Substance Use Disorder (SUD). The way that we describe this process reinforces expectations – in this case, the expectation that recovery is possible and can lead to a life free of legal involvement.

I would like to thank Senator Tikoian and his co-sponsors for putting forth this bill to ensure that our language reflects the goals of alternative sentencing and our support for people whose SUD has led to legal involvement as they find recovery.

Sincerely,

Lisa Peterson, LMHC/LCDP/LCDS/MAC