



March 24, 2026

The Honorable Victoria Gu
Chair, Senate Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies Committee
State of Rhode Island General Assembly
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Support for S2195: Relating to Commercial Law--General Regulatory Provisions--Artificial Intelligence Companion Models

Dear Chair Gu and the members of the Senate Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of S2195, which would create additional safety features for artificial intelligence companion. Passage of this bill is vital to effectively manage the risks that present for all people, users, and operators of AI companion.

My name is Jessica Crowe and I am VP of Administration at FSRI. FSRI is a behavioral health and social service organization delivering over 30 programs to support children, families and individuals across the state. All people seeking services within FSRI are assessed and screened for safety concerns. Our staff are trained and demonstrate competence in the methods of crisis prevention and intervention, including assessing for and responding to suicidal ideation and self-harm, and other safety threats and risks. We understand the importance of urgency and care when responding to and addressing potential crisis situations.

We fully support and advocate for the implementation of additional safety features for AI companion technology that ensures protocol to be followed if and when a user expresses suicidal ideation or self-harm, possible physical harm to others, or possible financial harm to others.

In absence of safety procedures and alerting users that the AI companion is unable to feel human emotion, the risk of suicide, self-harm, harm to others, and undetected abuse may increase.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of S2195, and please feel free to contact me with any questions or follow-up.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jessica Crowe' in a cursive script.

Jessica Crowe
Vice President of Administration
Family Service of Rhode Island
Croweje@familyserviceri.org
401-541-4807