



April 2, 2024

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon
Chair, House Committee on Corporations
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903

RE: Testimony in SUPPORT of H 7715

Dear Chairman Solomon,

I write to you today in support of House bill 7715, which would extend the forbearance of utility terminations for customers with disabilities or serious illnesses.

It is imperative that we support and protect the most vulnerable members of our communities. Access to basic public utilities is not just a matter of convenience—it is a fundamental necessity for maintaining health, safety, and dignity. This bill demonstrates a commitment to compassion and equity by ensuring that individuals with disabilities or serious illnesses are not subjected to utility shut offs that could exacerbate their already challenging circumstances. By extending forbearance of utility terminations, this legislation offers a lifeline to those who need it most, allowing them to focus on their health and well-being in a safe environment.

I respectfully urge you to support passage of this legislation. By doing so, we can uphold our values of compassion, fairness, and justice, and ensure that all Rhode Islanders have access to essential resources they need to thrive.

Thank you for considering this testimony. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Sabina Matos

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sabina Matos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lieutenant Governor
State of Rhode Island