

From: Serena Mason <serenamason@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 5:06 PM
To: House Education Committee <HouseEducation@rilegislature.gov>
Subject: "Alicia Biros" bill (H- 7196)

Dear House Education State of Rhode Island,

Hello. Good afternoon. I am writing in support of the "Alicia Biros" bill which is H- 7196. Alicia was a fellow teacher of mine at North Kingstown High School. However, she was more than just a teacher. She was a good friend, companion, confidant, gifted math academic, animal lover, skilled country line dancer, and fellow international traveler. Alicia gave much to North Kingstown High School, and her death deeply affected all of the teachers at the high school and still does to this day. Her students were also devastated as well. This would include her current students in that year and past students as well, several of whom showed up to her funeral.

Many of we teachers have her prayer card from her funeral on our desks and bulletin boards. This is a death that should never have happened but due to factors such as Covid, and isolation and her own mother's declining health, Alicia committed suicide. Devastation upon hearing this tragic news struck our school hard. It is a great weight that we will all carry for the rest of our lives. Supporting the Alicia Biros bill would mean a great deal to we teacher at North Kingstown High School, as well as teachers in other schools in the state that have suffered similar tragedies. I asked that you consider this bill and name it the Alicia Biros Bill officially, in honor of her. Thank you for your time and consideration of this very important bill.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ms. Serena Mason
History & Social Studies Department
North Kingstown High School

Friend of Ms. Alicia Biros