

**Chris O'Brien**

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**From:** rvitello <rvitello@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 14, 2024 6:25 PM  
**To:** House Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support of H 7858 - Bridge Suicide Prevention Barriers

Dear Representative Vella-Wilkinson,

Support of H 7858 - Bridge Suicide Prevention Barriers

I am writing in support of H 7858/ S 2969, which would require the Turnpike and Bridge Authority to install suicide prevention barriers, which would help save lives. Suicides have a ripple effect that extend throughout our communities. I know this because I have experienced losing someone who I care about to a suicide committed from the Pell Bridge, just last week. While barriers alone will not stop every suicide attempted from our state's bridges, they can afford our first responders the time they need to save a life. Please support the passage of this bill.

Sincerely,

Robert Vitello  
17 Everett Street  
Newport, RI 02840