

Dear Members of the House Health and Human Services Committee,

My name is Terri Fitch and I live in Newport. I am writing to you today about Bill H6088 which allows a certified foot care nurse or a certified foot care specialist to provide certain at-home foot care, including routine foot and nail care including nail clipping.

I support this bill.

Having this service available to me would alleviate the stress, physical difficulty, hours of discomfort, and expense of traveling by specialty transport to access a simple preventative procedure.

Frankly, I am appalled that Rhode Island doesn't currently allow this necessary basic care for those of our citizenry who are disabled and/or homebound. As a person who needs this service, I hope that you will recognize that it is the right thing to do. Homecare options are respectful and fair to those for whom access to basic health care is often undignified, needlessly difficult, and inherently disrespectful.

As our senior population continues to grow, "age-in-place" initiatives will necessarily require a more robust and thoughtful delivery platform for simple preventative care. It is certainly financially sound for both the patients and for the health professionals.

Rhode Island needs to get on-board already!

Thank you,

Terri Fitch

Newport