

Dear committee,

My name is Miranda Oakley. I am a South Kingstown resident who is completely blind. I'd like to share with you why I support website accessibility and why I believe you should take action now to pass bill H 7159. As a woman who is blind, I understand firsthand the limitations of inaccessibility around the web. Independence is taken away from blind people when we cannot access information online because the website is not accessible. One might think someone could read information to us but people aren't always going to be around to read what we can't access. Blind people want to be able to access information themselves without always needing to rely on others. Ensuring website accessibility opens the door for greater opportunities. Accessibility investments are made in buildings and sidewalks, and it's time Rhode Island invest in ensuring websites are accessible for people with disabilities. This is why I believe you should take action now to pass bill H 7159.