

Roberta DiMezza

From: Griffin, Fiona <fiona_griffin@brown.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2024 9:53 AM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Cc: RISHieldBill@gmail.com
Subject: President Of Queer Medical Student Alliance In Support of H7577

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Chairperson Robert Craven
House Judiciary Committee
Rhode Island House of Representatives
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

March 5, 2024

Dear Chairperson Craven:

My name is Fiona Griffin, and I am writing on behalf of Spectrum, the queer medical student alliance at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, in strong support of H7577, the Health Care Provider Shield Bill. I recently emailed you on behalf of myself, and now I reach out as the President of our organization. Spectrum views this legislation as critical to protect our health care delivery system, current medical students that identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community, and the patients we serve.

This legislation is necessary because hostile laws passed in other laws have the potential to interfere with delivery of health care in Rhode Island and create negative effects for our provider community and the patients for whom we care. It concerns Rhode Island's ability to protect healthcare providers, patients and access to essential care.

It is imperative that Rhode Island remains a competitive practice environment to ensure the viability of our health delivery system. This legislation brings Rhode Island in line with 11 states, including neighboring Massachusetts and Connecticut.

As you know, more than 20 states have enacted bans on essential, established medical care. Out-of-state laws banning access to essential medical care disregards a person's rights to make important medical decisions for themselves, their families and is informed by guidance from trusted providers.

We are grateful for the support the legislature has shown the provider community in the past and respectfully request your continued support through passage of this vital legislation. Please contact me if I can provide any additional information or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Fiona Griffin, MS
President
Spectrum at AMS

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