

Roberta DiMezza

From: Kramer, Peter <pdk@brown.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2024 2:32 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Cc: Rep. Blazejewski, Christopher R.
Subject: H7577 attn: Chairperson Robert Craven

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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:

I am writing in strong support of H7577, the Health Care Provider Shield Bill. I am a member of the Brown University faculty and a psychiatrist licensed in Rhode Island. This legislation is very important to the citizens of our state and their caregivers.

This legislation is about Rhode Island's ability to protect patients' access to essential care. The bill protects established, best-practice medical care that is legal in Rhode Island and protect our local providers from hostile laws in other states. This legislation is necessary because these laws have the potential to interfere with delivery of health care in Rhode Island and create a chilling effect for providers like me.

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

More than 20 states have enacted bans on essential, established medical care—laws that exert extraordinary control over people's lives and **even impose civil and criminal penalties on providers for practicing medicine in line with the professional standards of care. These bans have the potential to cross state lines and impact providers here.**

I appreciate the support the legislature has shown the provider community in the past and request your continued support through passage of this vital legislation. Please feel free to contact me at [if I can provide any additional information or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Peter D. Kramer, MD
171 Power St 02906