

Roberta DiMezza

From: Rebekah Gardner <rebekahgardner@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2024 1:22 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Cc: RISHieldBill@gmail.com
Subject: support of H7577

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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 practicing physician here in Rhode Island. This legislation is very important to me and my health care colleagues, and the patients we serve.

This legislation is about Rhode Island's ability to protect health care providers, patients, and access to essential care. 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 physicians like me.

I want to practice in a state that protects me and my patients, and so do other doctors. 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, **especially given our dire primary care doctor shortage!**

This common-sense legislation brings Rhode Island in line with 11 states, including neighboring Massachusetts and Connecticut.

I appreciate the support the legislature has shown the physician community in the past and respectfully request your continued support through passage of this vital legislation.

Sincerely,
Rebekah Gardner, MD