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To: House Committee on State Government & Elections  
From: Karen Malcolm, Protect Our Healthcare Coalition  
Date: April 1, 2025  
Re: **SUPPORT H6125** – Resolution Expressing Solidarity with RI's LGBTQIA+ Community

The Protect Our Healthcare Coalition is a group of leading Rhode Island non-profits and consumer groups with a goal to protect, improve, and expand equitable access to quality, person-centered, affordable health care for all. Our mission compels us to write in **support of House Resolution 6125**, to demonstrate solidarity with members of Rhode Island's LGBTQIA+ community.

Access to quality, gender-affirming care is critical to the physical and mental well-being of Rhode Island's LGBTQIA+ community. Limits on this population's right to access quality care, with specific Executive Order attack, is discriminatory. This, combined with the escalation of demonizing and dehumanizing verbal attacks, defy our values as a state and nation.

We must stand together to demonstrate our commitment to equality and justice and in defense of the rights, freedom, and welfare of every person.

We urge the Committee's passage.

Thank you.

***Protect Our Healthcare Coalition partners include:*** Economic Progress Institute, RIPIN, Mental Health Association RI, RI Health Center Association, Latino Policy Institute, Central Providence Opportunities: A Health Equity Zone (CPO-HEZ), United Way of Rhode Island, Senior Agenda Coalition RI, RI Medical Society, Planned Parenthood of Southern New England, SEIU Rhode Island Council, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, Leukemia/Lymphoma Society, RI Coalition for the Homeless, Rhode Island Working Families Party, Mental Health Recovery Coalition, RI Community Food Bank, RI Psychological Association, Substance Use & Mental Health Leadership Council, Rhode Island Coalition for Children and Families, HousingWorks RI, Rhode Island Organizing Project (RIOP), National Association of Social Workers RI Chapter, The Womxn Project, Advocates for Better Care

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