Rhode Island Values Our Medical Providers and Access to Essential Health Care

Health Care Provider Shield Act **Lead sponsors: Sen. Dawn Euer, Rep. John Edwards**

The Health Care Provider Shield Act (Senate Bill 2262/House Bill 7577) will protect legal, standard-of-care transgender and reproductive medical care for patients and providers in Rhode Island.

12 other states, including MA, ME, and CT, have already passed similar legislation to protect healthcare in their states.

Several U.S. states are taking away people's freedom to make important medical decisions for themselves and their families, informed by guidance from trusted providers, and replacing it with the wishes of politicians.

We can act now to protect Rhode Island's health care system, our providers, and those seeking essential medical care.

More than 20 states have banned essential medical care for transgender people and/or some or all abortion health care.

These bans exert extraordinary control over people's lives and impose civil and criminal penalties on providers for practicing medicine in line with the professional standards of care.

That's not the Rhode Island way. But these hostile laws have the potential to reach beyond state lines.

The Health Care Provider Shield Act will:

- Make it clear that access to reproductive healthcare and essential medical care for transgender people are legal rights in Rhode Island
- Protect Rhode Island health care providers from abusive civil or criminal litigation from other states
- Protect Rhode Islanders from having their information about protected health care shared with law enforcement agencies in other states where such care is banned
- Ensure Rhode Island providers aren't unfairly penalized by health care institutions or insurance for providing legally protected healthcare consistent with the professional standards of care
- Protect providers from surveillance that could negatively impact their ability to provide legally protected care
- Protect all providers involved in delivering legally protected transgender and reproductive health care in Rhode Island consistent with the standards of care, including care via telehealth
- Ensure Rhode Island's resources are not used to further hostile litigation from states where essential health care is banned

The Health Care Provider Shield Act is supported by:

For more information and to get involved contact: RIShieldBill@gmail.com