

State of Rhode Island

Town of Bristol

RESOLUTION 2022

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE TOWN OF BRISTOL'S U.S. REPRESENTATIVE DAVID CICILLINE COSPONSOR US H.R. 3733, THE ESSENTIAL CAREGIVER ACT PROTECTING HUMANE VISITATION POLICIES AT LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES, AND URGING U.S. SENATORS JACK REED AND SHELDON WHITEHOUSE TO SPONSOR COMPANION U.S. SENATE LEGISLATION

Whereas, U.S. H.R. 3733, the Essential Caregiver Act, allows essential caregivers access to long-term care facilities to provide care and support to a facility resident during any public health emergency.

Whereas, an essential caregiver is defined in this bill as an individual who provides direct care consisting of activities of daily living, emotional support, or companionship to a resident, and is chosen by the resident or the resident's legal representative.

Whereas, for more than two years, many residents in long-term care facilities have been separated from their loved ones – far too many lost their will to survive, and many others have suffered untold and irreversible emotional, psychological, and physical pain as a result of this separation.

Whereas, it is vital that we as a society recognize the critical role that family members and caregivers play in the support and wellbeing of residents in long-term care facilities.

Whereas, this bill will ensure that in any future public health emergency, designated essential caregivers will have their access to their loved ones protected in a manner consistent with all applicable health and safety protocols.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Bristol Town Council requests the Town of Bristol's U.S. Representative David Cicilline cosponsor US H.R. 3733 (as currently written in April of 2022 verbatim to how it was introduced in June of 2021), the Essential Caregiver Act, protecting humane visitation policies at long-term care facilities, and urging U.S. Senators Jack Reed and Sheldon Whitehouse to sponsor companion U.S. Senate legislation.

This Resolution shall take effect upon execution.

I hereby certify that at a meeting of the Bristol Town Council held on June 1, 2022, being duly noticed and with a quorum present and voting, the aforesaid was adopted.

Attest:



Melissa Cordeiro, Council Clerk

