

**THE HEALTHY PREGNANCIES
FOR INCARCERATED WOMEN ACT
(S 0165/H 5257)**

This legislation would ensure that:

- The least restrictive restraints necessary will be used on any incarcerated woman in her second or third trimester of pregnancy;
- No restraints of any kind will be used on any pregnant inmate while being transported to a hospital, during labor, delivery or postpartum recovery;
- If it is determined that the pregnant inmate presents a serious risk of physical harm to herself or others, or is considered a serious flight risk, the least restrictive restraints necessary may be used during transportation to a hospital, as well as during labor, delivery or postpartum recovery. The reasons behind the decision to use restraints under these circumstances will be documented and kept on file as a public record;
- Doctors, nurses and other health professionals have the ability to request any restraints to be removed if they interfere with best medical practices;
- Under no circumstances will leg or waist restraints be used on a pregnant inmate during labor and delivery and post-partum recovery
- A civil action for damages may be filed if someone is restrained in violation of this legislation;
- Rules shall be promulgated by the Department of Corrections and pregnant inmates will be advised of the provisions of the legislation; and
- This bill shall apply to both inmates at the ACI and the Rhode Island Training School.