Re: House Bill 5162 Christopher Ferreira, PA-C Position: Support

February 25, 2021

The Honorable Stephen M. Casey
Chair, House Committee on Health and Human Services
State House
82 Smith St.
Providence, RI 02903

Delivered electronically: <u>HouseHealthandHumanServices@rilegislature.gov</u>

Dear Chairman Casey,

I am a native Rhode Islander and have been a licensed and practicing Physician Assistant (PA) in the state since 2008. Currently, I hold the following PA roles:

- Director of Clinical Education, Bryant University PA Program
- Emergency Medicine PA, Brown Emergency Medicine
 - o Rhode Island Hospital and Miriam Hospital Emergency Departments
- Otolaryngology (ENT) PA, Office of Anthony Barone, MD (Cranston, RI)

I am writing in **full support of House Bill 5162.** This bill will clarify existing definitions, give PAs the same protections in employment contracts as physicians, and will allow PAs to provide certain services, thereby increasing access to care for patients throughout the state.

I appreciate your support and consideration of not only HB 5162, but also of patient access to quality healthcare across Rhode Island.

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Ferreira, PA-C