



Michael Sroczynski
President

April 14, 2026

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.
Chair, House Corporations Committee
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Re: Oppose H.7172

Dear Chairman Solomon,

On behalf of the Hospital Association of Rhode Island (HARI) and our member hospitals, we respectfully express our opposition to H.7172.

Rhode Island already has a comprehensive and well-established framework governing transparency and oversight of healthcare transactions through the **Hospital Conversions Act (HCA)** and the **Office of the Attorney General's pre-merger notification regulations**. Together, these authorities provide significant review of transactions affecting ownership, control, cost, quality, and access to care.

While H.7172 acknowledges these existing laws, it introduces a new and duplicative layer of review and disclosure that is potentially counterproductive. Although the bill attempts to coordinate with current law, it creates additional administrative complexity, uncertainty, and potential delays for transactions that are already subject to rigorous scrutiny.

This redundancy raises several concerns:

- **Duplicative Oversight:** Transactions already reviewed under the HCA and AG regulations would be subject to additional notice and disclosure requirements, increasing administrative burden without improving outcomes.
- **Operational Delays:** Even with coordination provisions, the introduction of another statutory framework risks prolonging timelines for partnerships, affiliations, and investments that are often critical to maintaining access to care.
- **Investments:** At a time when hospitals are navigating significant financial and operational pressures, additional regulatory layers may discourage the very partnerships and capital investments needed to sustain and strengthen the healthcare system.
- **Broad Scope and Unintended Consequences:** The bill's expansive definitions of "material change" and "covered care entities" could capture routine operational or financing arrangements, creating uncertainty and overreach beyond the bill's intended purpose.

At a time when the healthcare system remains financially fragile, policy efforts should be focused on strengthening stability, supporting access, and enabling thoughtful, timely partnerships—not creating additional barriers.

We respectfully urge the Committee to oppose H 7172.

Thank you for your consideration and continued partnership in supporting a strong, stable, and accessible healthcare system in Rhode Island.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa P. Tomasso", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lisa P. Tomasso
Senior Vice President

Hospital Association of Rhode Island

1 State Street – Suite 400, Providence, Rhode Island 02908 ■ p (401) 443-2803 ■ www.HARI.org