



RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY

Chairperson Joseph Solomon
House Corporations Committee
Rhode Island House of Representatives
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

H7427 - Support

April 14, 2026

Dear Chair Solomon and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Rhode Island Medical Society (RIMS), I write in support of H7427.

This legislation reflects a broader and urgent reality — primary care in Rhode Island is under significant strain. Physicians are facing increasing administrative burden driven largely by insurer requirements, including prior authorizations, documentation demands, and care coordination responsibilities, while reimbursement has not kept pace with the cost of delivering care.

Primary care practices are expected to manage the majority of coordination across the healthcare system, often without compensation for that work. As a result, many practices are struggling to remain viable, and some are making difficult decisions to reduce patient panels, limit services, or close entirely.

H7427 provides a practical tool to help practices offset these pressures by allowing reasonable administrative or operational fees. While this approach is not a comprehensive solution, it reflects the reality that physicians are seeking ways to sustain their practices and continue caring for patients.

RIMS recognizes the concerns raised about access and equity. It is important that any additional flexibility be implemented thoughtfully to avoid unintended barriers for patients. At the same time, the current trajectory poses a greater risk — without viable primary care practices, access to care will continue to erode, particularly for vulnerable populations.

More broadly, Rhode Island must be a place where physicians want to practice. Addressing administrative burden, improving reimbursement, and supporting sustainable practice models are essential to recruiting and retaining a strong primary care workforce.

RIMS appreciates the Committee's attention to these challenges and urges support for H7427 as part of a broader effort to stabilize primary care in Rhode Island.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nadine Himelfarb, MD
President