

May 15, 2024

The Honorable Marvin Abney House Committee on Finance State House, Room 35 Providence, RI 02906

Dear Chairman Abney and members of the committee,

I am writing to express Thundermist Health Center's strong support for **House Bill 7903**, that proposes to fund a 4-year scholarship program for primary care physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician's assistants.

Thundermist Health Center is committed to providing quality, convenient and accessible health care services for all its patients. That commitment is challenged with the limited number of providers available to meet the demand of over 60,000 unique patients. A scholarship program tied to a requirement to practice in Rhode Island would help in filling the accessibility gap that is created when patient demand surpasses provider capacity. In addition, the

I urge you and the House Finance Committee members to vote in favor of H 7903. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeanne LaChance

President/CEO