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April 16, 2025

The Honorable Marvin Abney, Chairman Committee on Finance House of Representatives 82 Smith Street, Room 35, Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chairman Abney and Members of the House Finance Committee,

My name is Caleb Roseme, and I am the Chief Operating Officer of Assured Quality Homecare. We are proud to be a member of the Rhode Island Partnership for Home Care and are committed to supporting access to high-quality, affordable home care for Rhode Island's residents.

We respectfully urge you to support **House Bill 5774**, which establishes a Medicaid Home Care rate floor and continues funding for the **Behavioral Health Training Program and the associated wage enhancement**. These measures are critical to ensuring that home care services remain stable, sustainable, and accessible to those who need them most.

Without this legislation, Rhode Island's home care workforce—already stretched thin—will face significant challenges, from reduced wages to staffing shortages, which will inevitably impact the care available to vulnerable and homebound populations.

The \$1.56 per hour wage enhancement tied to the behavioral health training program has made a real difference in workforce stability, and preserving this is essential to meeting the complex needs of our clients, especially those living with dementia, anxiety disorders, and other behavioral health conditions.

We strongly support including the language from House Bill 5774 into the SFY26 budget to protect Medicaid home care services and ensure continued investment in Rhode Island's care workforce.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Caleb Roseme

Chief Operating Officer Member, Rhode Island Partnership for Home Care

About Assured Quality Homecare, LLC:

Assured Quality Homecare is an award-winning home care agency serving Connecticut and Rhode Island. Recognized as a Best of Homecare® agency and featured on "World's Greatest!", we have consistently set the gold standard for non-medical home care services. Our team of dedicated caregivers provides exceptional support, empowering clients to feel and be better at home. Learn more at www.asqhomecare.com.