



Howard M. Dulude
Interim-President

April 30, 2025

The Honorable Marvin L. Abney
House Committee on Finance
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Re: **SUPPORT – H.5790**

Dear Chairman Abney,

On behalf of the Hospital Association of Rhode Island (HARI), I write in strong support of House Joint Resolution H.5790, introduced by Representative Noret and co-sponsored by a bipartisan group of legislators. This resolution would appropriate \$90 million to the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to increase reimbursement rates for physicians and advanced practice providers in the Rhode Island Medicaid program.

Low Medicaid reimbursement rates remain one of the most significant barriers to timely, high-quality care for Rhode Island residents. Providers across the state—especially those in primary care, pediatrics, and behavioral health—struggle to sustain their practices while serving large Medicaid populations. These financial pressures also make it more difficult to recruit and retain the healthcare workforce we urgently need.

H.5790 is a critical step toward addressing this problem. By investing in provider reimbursement, the state can help stabilize access to care, strengthen our healthcare workforce, and reduce reliance on higher-cost settings such as emergency departments. Importantly, this investment will benefit not only Medicaid patients, but all Rhode Islanders who rely on a functioning, responsive healthcare system.

We respectfully urge the Committee's support for this resolution and thank you for your continued leadership on healthcare access and affordability.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa P. Tomasso", written over a horizontal line.

Lisa P. Tomasso
Senior Vice President