

House Committee on Finance
RI State House of Representatives

April 28, 2025

Re: **Support for RIPIN Duals Ombudsman (H-6190)**

To Whom It May Concern:

I write to you to express my support for continued funding for RIPIN's duals ombudsman program which helps people with both Medicare and Medicaid ("duals") navigate confusing health insurance challenges. I know how confusing coverage is for duals, and how helpful RIPIN can be, because my wife and I are duals and RIPIN has helped us a great deal.

Our daughter is intellectually disabled and we found it extremely difficult to navigate our way through the process of getting her the medical coverage she needed in terms of Medicaid, Medicare and Blue Cross. The process was very trying to say the least. We turned to RIPIN to assist us. They were extremely helpful in guiding us through the process and getting us on the right path to secure the proper healthcare for our daughter. We certainly could not have accomplished this task without the help of RIPIN.

Please consider this my formal testimony in support of the funding for RIPIN's duals ombudsman program. It is very important that RIPIN's program is there to help other dual-eligible Rhode Islanders in their time of need.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dennis M Canario', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dennis M Canario

RI State Representative (Retired Dist. 71)