

June 3, 2025

House Finance Committee  
Rhode Island General Assembly  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chairman Abney and members of the House Finance Committee,

We, the undersigned education and mental health organizations, write to express our strong support for H 6308: legislation that will expand Medicaid reimbursement for school-based health services in Rhode Island.

In light of threats from the federal government to cut spending for programs that support youth mental health, Rhode Island has a critical opportunity to raise significant, sustainable funding to support school-based health services. This legislation would allow Rhode Island to seek at least 50% reimbursement for all billable services provided to Medicaid-enrolled students - which schools already pay for with state and local funds.

Several of the states that have implemented this change to their Medicaid plan—including Massachusetts, Connecticut, Louisiana, and Michigan—have seen major increases in revenue, enabling expanded access to care and reduced pressure on education budgets. Through this legislation, Rhode Island now has the chance to join the 25 other states that have already modernized their Medicaid programs to reflect this opportunity.

As organizations committed to improving the health, education, and wellbeing of youth across Rhode Island, we urge you to support this legislation. Thank you for your attention and commitment to the future of our students.

Sincerely,

National Association of Social Workers, Rhode Island Chapter

Rhode Island Substance Use and Mental Health Leadership Council

RI Certified School Nurse Association Legislative Board

Rhode Island Association of School Committees

Rhode Island School Superintendents Association