



STATE of RHODE ISLAND
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Legislative Impact Statement

To: Representative Donnavan, Chair
House Health and Human Services Committee
From: Elisabeth Hubbard, Executive Secretary
Re: 26 HOUSE 7463 AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE --
LONG-TERM CARE SERVICE AND FINANCE REFORM
April 9, 2026

The Governor's Commission on Disabilities' Legislation Committee has developed a Legislative Impact Statement on the bill listed below. The Commission would be pleased to present testimony to the committee. Please contact me (462-0110) if testimony is desired or for additional information.

The Commission finds this bill beneficial.

This bill would expand the deinstitutionalization subsidy aid program to include adopted parents and siblings as qualified caregivers under the program. This program provides financial assistance to families who care for a developmentally disabled family member who was previously cared for in a state institution in their home. This program furthers the state goal of deinstitutionalization and follows the *Olmstead* decision, which affirms the right of people with disabilities to receive care in their community.

According to a report published by the Rhode Island Long Term Care Coordinating Council Housing report conducted in 2023 "nearly 2,000 Rhode Islanders with intellectual/developmental disabilities, aged 18-40, are currently living with their families. There are 468 additional I/DD individuals older than 40, still living with parents or other family members."¹

Families who are formed through adoption are not qualified for this program. This distinction discriminates against those families, whose bonds are just as strong as families formed by birth. We believe therefore that this program should be extended to those families.

¹ <https://ltgov.ri.gov/sites/g/files/xkgbur491/files/2023-06/LTCCC%20Housing%20Report%20%28Approved%29.pdf>