



235 Promenade Street, Suite 455  
Providence, RI 02908  
401.274.1771  
[info@rihca.org](mailto:info@rihca.org)  
[www.rihca.org](http://www.rihca.org)

May 12, 2026

The Honorable Marvin L. Abney  
Rhode Island House of Representatives  
House Finance Committee  
(Submitted via [HouseFinance@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseFinance@rilegislature.gov))

Dear Chair Abney and Members of the Committee:

Please accept the Rhode Island Health Center Association's letter in support of House Bill 8268. This bill would create sustained funding for the perinatal and pediatric psychiatric teleconsultation lines, RI MomsPRN and PediPRN, and ensure access to mental and behavioral health services and care for Rhode Island children and families.

Rhode Island's eight community health centers provide primary care to more than 220,000 adults and children. MomsPRN and PediPRN facilitate same-day psychiatric telephone consultations for health care providers serving mothers and children in primary care settings. These programs allow patients to continue receiving care from their established clinicians, helping to preserve continuity of care. By strengthening existing patient-provider relationships, they can improve outcomes, reduce barriers to care, and decrease emergency room visits for mental health concerns.

Passage of this legislation will create sustained funding for both programs that support practices and providers in caring for the mental and behavioral health needs of their patients. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*M Campbell*

Melissa Campbell  
Policy Manager

The Rhode Island Health Center Association members include:  
Blackstone Valley Community Health Care Inc. ~ Comprehensive Community Action Program  
East Bay Community Action Program ~ Providence Community Health Centers  
Thundermist Health Center ~ Tri-County Community Action Agency  
WellOne Primary Medical and Dental Care ~ Wood River Health