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13 May 2026

The Honorable Chairman Marvin Abney
Honorable members of the House Committee on Finance
State House
RE: SUPPORT H8268 - PEDI PRN

Dear Chairperson and Members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill H8268, which would include both the MomsPRN and PediPRN teleconsultation lines in the healthcare services funding contributions payable by health insurers. As a pediatrician in private practice in RI for over twenty years I can testify the PediPRN has worked and is needed. If we allow PediPRN to end it will be a huge loss for our healthcare system.

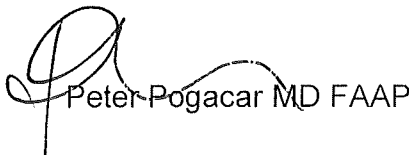
These programs provide critical support for maternal and pediatric healthcare providers across Rhode Island. Expanding stable funding for MomsPRN and PediPRN will help ensure that healthcare professionals have access to expert consultation services that improve patient care, especially for mothers, infants, and children facing complex medical or behavioral health challenges.

Teleconsultation services are an important tool for improving healthcare access, reducing disparities, and supporting providers in communities where specialty care may be limited. By strengthening these programs, H8268 represents a meaningful investment in preventive care, early intervention, and better health outcomes for Rhode Island families.

This legislation also supports healthcare providers by giving them timely access to specialized guidance, helping patients receive appropriate care sooner and potentially reducing unnecessary emergency visits or long-term complications.

I respectfully urge you to support and advance H8268.

Thank you for your time and consideration.


Peter Pogacar MD FAAP