



# Rhode Island Pharmacists Association

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[submitted electronically via: [HouseHealthandHumanServices@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseHealthandHumanServices@rilegislature.gov)]

The Honorable Susan Donovan Chair, House Committee on Health & Human Services  
State House  
82 Smith Street, Room 101  
Providence, RI 02903

RE: H7625 (KISLAK)– AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE – ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES

Dear Chair Donovan and members of the Committee:

Rhode Island Pharmacists Association (RIPA) is writing to express support for H7625, companion bill to S2255, with no amendments, and in alignment with the other advocates for this updated language.

We applaud the changes which were made to improve S0563, which passed, and was signed by the Governor in 2023. It is important to note that S0563, *did not* have a Prior Authorization in the original language introduced.

This revision, which removes the potential 72-hour Prior Authorization, not only ensures rapid access to care, decreases disease burden, but also decreases seroconversion leading to reduced long-term direct and indirect healthcare resource utilization.

Initiation should occur as soon as 2 hrs, since efficacy declines thereafter. Health plans who oppose this change should consider the long-term financial effect of a patient developing HIV, and subsequently AIDS. Administrative burden placed on providers, patient and pharmacy personnel.

For a more thorough review of PEP to Prevent HIV, please see the attached Clinical Guidelines Program from the NY DOH AIDS Institute, and the attached image (page 2) which illustrates the consequences of prompt vs delayed initiation of PEP.

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