



RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY

Honorable Susan Donovan
Chair
House Committee on Health & Human Services
House Lounge
State House
Providence, RI 02903

Re: 24H-8072

SUPPORT

May 9, 2024

Dear Chair Donovan,

The Rhode Island Medical Society (RIMS) would like to thank Representative Tanzi for introducing H8072, An Act Relating To State Affairs And Government -- The Rhode Island Health Care Reform Act Of 2004 -- Health Insurance Oversight. This bill protects the solvency of health systems, physicians, and advance practice providers and insurers, encourage fair treatment of hospitals and ensure adequate clinical workforce while advancing health equity.

Physicians play a crucial role in delivering high-quality healthcare to the residents of Rhode Island. However, the challenges faced by healthcare providers in maintaining solvency, ensuring fair treatment, and addressing workforce shortages are significant and multifaceted. This legislation represents an important step toward addressing these challenges and creating a more sustainable and equitable healthcare system in our state.

By protecting the solvency of health systems, physicians, and advance practice providers, this bill ensures that healthcare providers can continue to deliver essential services to patients without facing undue financial strain. Additionally, by encouraging fair treatment of hospitals and ensuring an adequate clinical workforce, this legislation supports the stability and effectiveness of our healthcare system as a whole.

Furthermore, by advancing health equity, this bill addresses disparities in access to care and health outcomes, ensuring that all residents of Rhode Island can achieve optimal health regardless of their background or circumstances.

On behalf of the physicians in Rhode Island, I urge you and your committee members to support this important legislation and take action to ensure its passage. By enacting this bill into law, Rhode Island can demonstrate its commitment to building a healthcare system that is sustainable, equitable, and responsive to the needs of all its residents.

Thank you for considering our testimony in support of this critical legislation.

Sincerely,

Heather Smith, MD, MPH
President