

Steven Sepe

From: Sara Watson <watsonse@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 4:37 AM
To: House Health and Human Services Committee
Subject: Testimony in support of H5218

Dear Chair Donovan and members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services,

I am a primary care doc in Rhode Island writing in support of H5218. I fully support increasing the required coverage amount for hearing aids. These are extremely expensive, even the basic models, and at least 50% of my older adult patients struggle with hearing loss as they age. Because hearing loss is a risk factor for social isolation, dementia, and falls (among others), I would advocate for anyone who needs hearing aids, being able to have enough insurance coverage to obtain them. Thank you.

Dr. Sara Watson