



March 13, 2025

The Honorable Susan R. Donovan
Chairperson, House Committee on Health and Human Services
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

RE: Letter of Education H-5627 – AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE – ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS
INSURANCE POLICIES

Dear Chairperson Donovan:

I write on behalf of the State of Rhode Island Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner (OHIC) regarding [House Bill 5627](#). OHIC notes that the proposed legislation applies only to group health insurance contracts. Additionally, language in proposed subsection RIGL § 27-18-95(a) *“No nonprofit medical service corporation may require supervision, signature, or referral by any other healthcare provider as a condition of reimbursement to a pharmacist; provided that, no nonprofit medical service corporation may be required to pay for the duplicative services actually rendered by both a pharmacist and any other healthcare provider”* further limits portions of the bill's provisions to nonprofit medical service corporations; this language is also included in proposed RIGL §§ 27-19-87, 27-20-83, and 27-41-100. This wording will limit aspects of the bill's applicability to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island exclusively.

OHIC also notes that the language in subsection (a)(1) provides *“The following services shall qualify as being eligible for payment and reimbursement to a pharmacist, unless paid by another mechanism, include: (1) Evaluation and management of a patient, which requires a medically appropriate history and/or examination and medical decision making.”* In order to avoid confusion and ambiguity in complying with and enforcing the terms of this bill, OHIC recommends the bill provide additional clarity around this provision.

Finally, OHIC notes that the legislation contains a sunset clause of January 1, 2030.

Thank you for your continued leadership and hard work on all matters related to the health of Rhode Islanders.

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Sincerely,



Cory B. King
Health Insurance Commissioner

CC: Honorable Members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services
Honorable Julie A. Casimiro
Nicole McCarty, Esquire, Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House