



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

RE: Support for H 5627 – 2025

Dear Chairwoman Donovan,

I am writing to express my strong support for House bill H 5627 that requires health insurance providers to cover pharmacists' services, including the evaluation and management of patients, as well as the ordering and evaluation of clinical laboratory tests.

At Asthenis, we already provide many of these services in-kind to underserved communities, and reimbursement for these services would ensure sustainability and create a pathway to scale the Asthenis model across other Rhode Island communities facing doctor shortages.

Moreover, this bill would significantly improve access to primary care services for underserved populations. Families who struggle to secure timely medical office visits due to the primary care shortage would greatly benefit from the convenience and accessibility of pharmacist-provided services. Additionally, it would allow a small Rhode Island-based business like Asthenis to continue expanding and growing, further contributing to the health and well-being of our community.

I urge you to support and pass this crucial legislation to enhance healthcare access, ensure sustainability, and promote the growth of local businesses like Asthenis that are dedicated to serving our communities.

Sincerely,

Eugenio Fernandez, Jr.
PharmD, MBA, MPH

CC: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services
The Honorable Julie A. Casimiro

Nicole McCarty, Esq.