[submitted electronically via: HouseHealthandHumanServices@rilegislature.gov] The Honorable Susan R. Donovan Chair, House Committee on Health and Human Services State House 82 Smith Street Providence, RI 02903

RE: Testimony in Support of House Bill H5852 (Solomon)— AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- COLLABORATIVE PHARMACY PRACTICE {LC1836/1}

Dear Chairperson Donovan and members of the House Health and Human Services:

I'm Dr. Jeffrey Bratberg, a clinical professor of pharmacy practice and clinical research at the University of Rhode Island (URI) College of Pharmacy, writing on behalf of myself in support of H5852.

This bill would allow other non-physician healthcare providers to enter into collaborative practice agreements (CPA) with pharmacists and streamline the approval process for these agreements by eliminating the collaborative practice committee.

I am a national expert on CPAs and have written several novel CPAs in Rhode Island that have been adapted by other states. In many states, their pharmacists are not limited to working with physician providers and can enter into agreements with other licensed providers like nurse practitioners and physician associates, further expanding the provision of primary care and public health. This bill is necessary not only to expand the pool of providers in Rhode Island but also adopt common sense procedures to safely speed up CPA approvals.

To enhance and extend access to effective collaborative care models, I urge the committee to pass H5852.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Bratberg, PharmD, FAPhA

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