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March 13, 2025

The Honorable Susan R. Donovan, Chair  
House Committee on Health and Human Services  
State House  
82 Smith St.  
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: H 5852 – An Act Relating to Businesses and Professions – Collaborative Pharmacy Practice**

Dear Chair Donovan:

Please accept this letter of support, with amendments, regarding H 5852, legislation that would expand the existing law regarding collaborative practice agreements between pharmacists and physicians to allow other healthcare providers to enter into such agreements. This Act would also remove the definition of Collaborative Practice Committee and would require submission of the collaborative practice agreements to the Rhode Island Board of Pharmacy for record-keeping purposes. The Act would take effect on July 1, 2025.

RIDOH's suggested amendments are as follows:

- On page 2, lines 1 and 2: RIDOH recommends removing the following wording: ~~Collaborative practice agreements shall be submitted to the board of pharmacy for record keeping purposes.~~
- On page 2, lines 6-8: Remove the wording "and refiled for record keeping with the board if substantive changes that impact patient care are made." Collaborative practice agreements shall be reviewed and signed by the parties thereto annually, ~~and refiled for record keeping with the board if substantive changes that impact patient care are made.~~

RIDOH does not feel that there is a compelling public health reason for filing and refiling collaborative practice agreements with the Board of Pharmacy as they are agreements between pharmacists and referring providers in H 5852. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerome M. Larkin" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jerome M. Larkin, MD  
Director

CC: The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon Jr.  
The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services  
Nicole McCarty, Esquire, Chief Legal Counsel  
Lynne Urbani, Director of House Policy