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March 18, 2025

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

**RE: H 5633 – An Act Relating to Businesses and Professions – Pharmacies**

Dear Chair Donovan:

Please accept this letter of support for H 5633, legislation that would allow a pharmacist to dispense a one-time refill for certain medications for continuation of therapy to patients under certain circumstances. This act would take effect on July 1, 2025.

The proposed legislation simply allows a pharmacist to dispense a one-time therapy prescription refill, up to, but no more than 100 days of the prescribed medication in the event the pharmacist receives a request for a prescription refill and the pharmacist is unable to readily obtain refill authorization from the prescriber or the patient does not have a prescriber. The prescription cannot be for a drug in Schedule II-V. The medication must be essential to the maintenance of life or to the continuation of therapy of a chronic condition and, in the pharmacist's professional judgment, the interruption of therapy might reasonably produce undesirable health consequences or may cause physical or mental discomfort. The dispensing pharmacist must notify the prescriber of the dispensing within seven business days. If no current prescriber exists, the pharmacist is required to document such in their internal record keeping system

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerome M. Larkin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jerome M. Larkin, MD  
Director

CC: The Honorable Michelle McGaw  
The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services  
Nicole McCarty, Esquire, Chief Legal Counsel  
Lynne Urbani, Director of House Policy