



May 1, 2025

To:

House Committee on Health & Human Services
Email: househealthandhumanservices@rilegislature.gov

Re: Opposition to H5426

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to respectfully express my strong opposition to House Bill H5426. This bill would significantly limit the ability of nursing facilities to make essential financial decisions by capping distributions to no more than 3% of annual gross patient revenue from all payer sources, unless approved by the Director of the Department of Health.

This measure would add an unnecessary and excessive layer of regulation at a time when our facilities are already facing numerous challenges, including workforce shortages, rising costs, and ongoing demands for quality improvement. Providers are already held to high standards through detailed reporting requirements and rigorous oversight. Imposing further restrictions on how facilities manage their revenue does nothing to enhance resident care—instead, it undermines operational flexibility and creates obstacles to reinvestment in critical areas like staffing, training, infrastructure, and resident programs.

This bill does not reflect the financial realities or day-to-day demands of operating a skilled nursing facility. Rather than support providers working hard to serve the elderly and medically vulnerable in our state, it sends the message that our financial decisions cannot be trusted—even though we remain accountable under existing regulatory frameworks.

Instead of punitive measures, we should be advancing policies that support stability, attract and retain qualified staff, and allow facilities to adapt and improve in response to resident needs.

I respectfully urge the committee to reject H5426 in the interest of maintaining a viable, compassionate, and responsive long-term care system in Rhode Island.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Zev Schwartz
CEO, Mayflower Healthcare