



Rhode Island Insurance Federation

March 10, 2026

Via Email to [HouseJudiciary@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseJudiciary@rilegislature.gov)

The Honorable Carol Hagan McEntee  
House Judiciary Committee  
Rhode Island State House, Room 205  
Providence, RI 02903

**Statement of the Rhode Island Insurance Federation In Opposition to House Bill 8053 which provides that the billed amount for certain medical and health care services shall be considered fair and reasonable in civil actions.**

Dear Chair McEntee:

The Rhode Island Insurance Federation submits this statement in opposition of House Bill No. 8053, which provides that the billed amount for certain medical and health care services shall be considered fair and reasonable in civil actions.

There is no doubt that medical billing is complex in the United States, from negotiated rates across the insurance spectrum to differentiating the costs from the charged to the reimbursed amount. However, each of these steps were designed to place downward cost pressures on the system. Moreover, we must consider if such a presumption of reasonability this legislation gives to billed amounts is a flawed presumption if almost no person or insurer ever pays the billed amount. To require insurers, especially automobile, professional malpractice, and workers' compensation insurers to accept the billed amount as fair and reasonable without any discernment is a bad precedent to set in Rhode Island.

As drafted, House Bill 8053 is likely to incentivize inflated billed prices, when recovery of the billed amount becomes guaranteed—up to the policy limits. Allowing such practices will likely result in both higher premiums for our policyholders and fewer of the necessary procedures from being completed within the policy limits purchased.

Affordability and availability of insurance is an important factor to consider, and most other states that have moved bills regarding the collateral source rule are moving towards the actual paid or a hybrid approach, because of the cost of these phantom damages on the system.

Cost and claim shifting to property-casualty insurance, due to the cost containment pressures in health insurance, is not the answer to the myriad of issues plaguing the American health care system, nor is it in the public policy interest of Rhode Island to pass legislation that could increase medical inflation without protections against fraud and abuse of the system.

For the reasons set forth above, the Federation opposes House Bill 8053, and we urge the Committee not to advance this legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

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