



**Rhode Island Partnership  
for Home Care**

*Advancing quality healthcare at home*

April 30, 2026

**VIA EMAIL:** [housejudiciary@rilegislature.gov](mailto:housejudiciary@rilegislature.gov)

Hon. Carol Hagan McEntee, Chairwoman  
Committee on Judiciary  
Rhode Island House of Representatives  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

**Re: Request for Amendments to House Bill 7760 – Lila Manfield Sapinsley Compassionate Care Act**

Dear Chairwoman McEntee:

On behalf of the Rhode Island Partnership for Home Care, I respectfully request that the Committee consider targeted amendments to House Bill 7760, An Act Relating to Health and Safety – Lila Manfield Sapinsley Compassionate Care Act.

This legislation seeks to permit terminally ill patients to consult with physicians for the purpose of self-administering prescribed medication to end their lives. While we recognize the sensitivity and complexity of this issue, the bill in its current form presents several operational, regulatory and liability concerns for Rhode Island Department of Health-licensed home care, home nursing care and hospice providers.

Specifically, the bill does not:

1. Clearly allow licensed home care, home nursing care or hospice providers to operationalize this option for patients receiving care in the home setting;
2. Align with Rhode Island Department of Health continuity of care requirements governing licensed providers;
3. Provide adequate liability protections for home-based providers. Immunity provisions are primarily limited to physicians and certain facility-based settings; and
4. Ensure sufficient patient-centered options counseling, particularly regarding hospice, palliative care, as well as pain and symptom management alternatives prior to such a consequential decision.

To address these concerns, we respectfully request the following amendments:

**1. Page 4, Lines 28–30 – Replace with:**

[“\(v\) The physician received a written attestation signed by the medical director or nurse manager of a hospice provider confirming that the patient received a face-to-face consultation from the hospice provider, during which the patient was informed of all feasible symptom control and pain management options for end-of-life care, and that the patient declined such options following the consultation.”](#)

**2. Add new language to Page 5 following Line 34 (Health Care Facility Exception):**

“For patients receiving services from a home care provider, home nursing care provider, or hospice provider, the authorizing physician shall provide written notification to the provider upon prescribing medication intended for self-administration to end life. Upon such notification, the provider may discharge the patient without being subject to continuity of care requirements or penalty for declining to continue services following the prescription of such medication.”

**3. Page 6, Lines 15–16 – Replace with:**

“(2) The physician received a written attestation signed by the medical director or nurse manager of a hospice provider confirming that the patient received a hospice consultation informing the patient of all feasible symptom control and pain management options for end-of-life care, and that the patient declined such options.”

It is important to emphasize that our intent is not to impede consideration of this legislation. Rather, these amendments are necessary to ensure regulatory clarity, protect licensed providers from unintended liability and strengthen patient-centered decision-making through comprehensive counseling on end-of-life care options.

Thank you for your consideration of these recommendations to amend House Bill 7760 before potentially advancing this bill out of your Committee.

Sincerely,

*Nicholas Oliver*

Nicholas Oliver, MPA, CAE, AAiP  
Executive Director

cc: Members, House Committee on Judiciary