April 9, 2025



The Honorable Chair Corvese House Labor Committee State House Providence, RI 02903

Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of H6066

Chair Corvese:

RIPIN supports expanding the parameters of Temporary Caregiver Insurance, TCI, to include populations of grandchildren, siblings, and care recipients. We also agree with increasing the percentage of wages that will be covered in order to provide individuals who have to take TCI with a livable wage while on leave.

RIPIN is a peer-led organization that is comprised of over 120 employees, many of which have loved ones with special healthcare needs. As a practice, we have always promoted a family first perspective. This legislation would provide our employees and the individuals we serve with the opportunity to maintain employment and some form of income during a time that could be very challenging in their lives.

With the workforce challenges this state is facing, expanding TCI would alleviate some of the stress families encounter when they have loved ones with special healthcare needs but cannot find providers for home and community-based services. It allows for individuals to stay in their homes as opposed to residential placements and when you are able to recover in your natural environment, it improves outcomes.

Many caregivers in RI are reluctant to take TCI due to not being able to afford to take the amount of time needed since the reimbursement rate is too low. These individuals are already living in poverty and this loss of wages would cause even more distress to their lives.

Please pass H-6066 and more RI forward to once again be a leader in Paid Family Leave.

Sincerely,

/s/

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