



March 18, 2026

The Honorable Arthur J. Corvese
Chairman, House Labor Committee
Rhode Island House of Representatives
State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

HouseLabor@rilegislature.gov

Re: Oppose H 7772

Dear Chairman Corvese and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, I write to express our opposition to H 7772, which would require healthcare workers and direct support professionals to be compensated at time-and-a-half for work performed on Sundays and holidays.

While we recognize and deeply value the critical role healthcare workers play, this proposal would impose additional financial and operational burdens on healthcare providers that are already facing workforce shortages and rising costs.

Spiraling healthcare costs remain one of the most significant challenges facing Rhode Island employers and their employees. Businesses across the state continue to struggle with rising premiums and the impact those costs have on wages, hiring, and overall affordability for workers. Policies that further increase the cost of delivering care—such as mandated premium pay requirements—risk exacerbating an already difficult and unsustainable situation.

Mandating additional compensation requirements for weekends and holidays could also limit scheduling flexibility, increase staffing challenges, and ultimately impact the delivery of care. Healthcare providers must operate around the clock, and rigid compensation mandates may create unintended consequences for both employers and patients.

At a time when the healthcare system is under significant strain, it is important to avoid policies that could further increase costs and disrupt care delivery.

For these reasons, the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests that the Committee decline to advance this legislation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laurie White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L" and a small dot over the "i" in "White".

Laurie White
President & CEO
Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce