

February 24, 2026

[submitted electronically via: househealthandhumanservices@rilegislature.gov]

The Honorable Chair Susan Donovan, House Committee on Health & Human Services

State House

82 Smith Street

Providence, RI 02903

To the Honorable Members of the House Committee on Health & Human Services:

I am writing to signify my support for H 7424.

As Rhode Island navigates a shortage of primary care physicians, we must modernize our laws to allow for more flexible, team-based healthcare models. This bill expands pharmacists' ability to enter into collaborative practice agreements with a broader range of healthcare providers, moving beyond just physicians to include other prescribing professionals.

By streamlining the administrative process for these agreements and expanding the scope of "drug therapy management," this act allows pharmacists to manage patient regimens, monitor vital signs, and order laboratory tests more efficiently. This is a common-sense solution to ensure Rhode Islanders receive continuous, high-quality care even when a primary care physician is not immediately available. I urge the committee to recommend passage of H 7424.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Caetano". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michelle Caetano, PharmD

Cumberland, RI