

2 Mar 2026

[submitted electronically via: HouseHealthandHumanServices@rilegislature.gov]

The Honorable Susan Donovan Chair, House Committee on Health & Human Services
State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

RE: SUPPORT – H7536 (Casimiro) - Compensation for Pharmacists' Professional and Cognitive Services

Dear Chair Donovan and members of the Committee:

I am submitting this letter to state my complete support of **H7536**. The act would provide compensation for Pharmacists' Professional and Cognitive Services.

I have practiced as a community pharmacist for 26 years, functioning in many ways as a primary care provider within the community. Each patient presents with unique needs, ranging from acute conditions such as conjunctivitis to early symptoms of herpes zoster. I routinely assess adults for recommended preventive vaccinations and serve as a trusted resource for individuals seeking counseling and access to hormonal contraceptives for pregnancy prevention and other indications.

The primary barrier to expanding the breadth and scope of pharmacist-provided patient care services is reimbursement. Pharmacists must be appropriately compensated for the essential services they deliver, especially during a significant primary care physician shortage. From early in their education, pharmacy students are taught the value of interdisciplinary collaboration, and practicing pharmacists are deeply committed to working alongside physicians and advanced practice colleagues to optimize patient care. Pharmacists are the medications experts, available 24/7, yielding improved public health and healthy equity throughout our Rhode Island communities.

Sincerely,



Ginger Lemay, PharmD, CDOE, CVDOE
Clinical Professor and President, Rhode Island Pharmacists Association, 2022-2023
PGY1 Community-Based Residency Program Director
University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy

Practice Sites:

Walgreens Pharmacy, Community Pharmacist
Visiting Nurse Home & Hospice, Transition of Care Pharmacist