

3/2/2026

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

RE: (H7536)– AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE - ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE
POLICIES: Compensation for ALL pharmacist professional services

Dear Chair Donovan and members of the Committee:

My name is Laura McAuliffe, and I am a pharmacist with more than ten years of experience in ambulatory care. I currently serve as a clinical manager overseeing a team of over 40 employees who deliver high-quality care to underserved patients in Providence, RI. I am writing in strong support of bill H7536, which would allow reimbursement for all pharmacist professional services. **This bill also has a Senate Companion bill, S897.**

Throughout my career, I have witnessed firsthand the essential role pharmacists play in improving patient outcomes, reducing hospitalizations, and supporting the healthcare team. Demand for pharmacists continues to grow as providers increasingly rely on our expertise, yet pharmacists remain unable to bill for the care we provide.

With a significant shortage of primary care providers, pharmacists are uniquely positioned to help manage complex patients and relieve pressure on the system. However, expanding pharmacy services is challenging without appropriate reimbursement. Pharmacists not only improve clinical outcomes but also enhance provider and patient satisfaction and enable providers to see more patients. This bill does not broaden scope or aim to replace usual care by providers. Pharmacists are already working at the top of their licenses under Collaborative Practice Agreements in the state, but do not receive reimbursement for those services. The inability to bill for these services creates inefficiencies, limits growth, and ultimately harms patient care and organizational sustainability.

There is considerable revenue lost by not reimbursing pharmacists, despite their care being comparable to - if not exceeding - that of other clinicians in many areas. Rhode Island continues to lag behind states that have advanced reimbursement models, and passing this bill would bring meaningful, necessary progress to our healthcare system.

This issue is deeply important to me, and I urge your support for bill H7536 to recognize the value pharmacists provide and strengthen the future of patient care in our state.

Sincerely,



Laura McAuliffe, PharmD, BCACP
Employed at Rhode Island Hospital in Providence, RI