

Carolina Menendez
244 Rhodes St
Providence, RI 02905
cmenendez13@hotmail.com
(401)369-5410

March 3rd, 2026

Chair and Members
House Health & Human Services Committee
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of House Bill 7537, which would require insurance coverage for scalp cooling systems for patients undergoing chemotherapy.

This bill matters to Rhode Island families, including the Imbriglio family. Jessie Imbriglio was diagnosed with breast cancer at just 22 years old. She is a nurse who serves patients every day and makes a difference in the healthcare space. She has chosen to turn her incredibly difficult experience to raise awareness and support others impacted by cancer.

Scalp cooling helps prevent hair loss during chemotherapy by constricting blood vessels in the scalp and slowing the metabolic rate of hair follicles. This limits the amount of chemotherapy medication that reaches and damages hair cells.

Hair loss is not simply cosmetic. It is one of the most visible and emotionally difficult parts of cancer treatment. Preventing hair loss helps reduce the emotional toll of a diagnosis. It allows patients to face treatment with pride and grace during an incredibly vulnerable time.

Without insurance coverage, many patients cannot afford this treatment. Supporting this legislation ensures access is based on need, not ability to pay.

I respectfully urge you to support and advance House Bill 7537.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Carolina Menendez

Carolina Menendez