

Rhode Island Chapter

INCORPORATED IN RHODE ISLAND

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



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3/30/2026

RIAAP Testimony in Support of HB7540, with a proposed SubA

Dear Chairman Donovan and members of the committee,

I'm writing on the behalf of the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (RIAAP) in support of HB7540, which protects the current, evidence-based immunization schedule used by the pediatricians of Rhode Island. As pediatricians, we have confidence in these vaccines, and want to ensure that our patients continue to be protected against all of the diseases that they were designed to prevent.

The way the bill is written, it adds language that stresses the need for the Rhode Island Department of Health to use recommendations promoted by the AAP, AAFP, and AMA, for use in the Rhode Island State-Supplied Vaccine (SSV) program. Unfortunately, this bill **does not delete the current recommendation that the state use the guidance of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)**, which is the CDC board that was recently suspended by a federal judge in Massachusetts for lack of qualifications to fulfill its role.

The RIAAP would be happy to work with the sponsors of this bill to amend it so that it has the full intended effect in protecting the health of Rhode Island children. Thanks for your urgent support,

Gregory Fox, MD FAAP

Advocacy Chair

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