

## Steven Sepe

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**From:** Silva, Jessica <JYSilva@KentRI.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 14, 2026 2:15 PM  
**To:** House Health and Human Services Committee  
**Subject:** Support for RI House Bill 7921 – Pharmacists Test-and-Treat Authority Act

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Dear Members of the House of Representatives,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 7921, the Pharmacists Test-and-Treat Authority Act. This important legislation would authorize pharmacists to order, perform, and interpret CLIA-waived tests under statewide protocols and prescribe appropriate medications, while also ensuring coverage by health insurance carriers. This represents a meaningful step toward expanding access to timely, patient-centered care across Rhode Island.

Pharmacists are among the most accessible healthcare professionals and are well-positioned to provide test-and-treat services for common, acute conditions. Allowing pharmacists to perform CLIA-waived testing and initiate treatment under established protocols can help reduce delays in care, improve patient outcomes, and alleviate strain on emergency departments, urgent care centers, and primary care practices. These services are particularly valuable for patient's facing barriers to care, including limited appointment availability, transportation challenges, or workforce shortages.

In addition, pharmacist-led test-and-treat programs have demonstrated success in improving access to care, promoting appropriate medication use, and enhancing overall healthcare efficiency. Ensuring insurance coverage for these services is critical to making this care accessible and sustainable for patients and healthcare systems alike.

I respectfully urge you to support House Bill 7921 and advance this legislation to improve access, strengthen team-based care, and better serve patients throughout Rhode Island.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Silva, PharmD  
Cumberland, RI

**Jessica Silva, PharmD (she/her)**  
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