



April 8, 2026

Senator DiPalma  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
RI state House  
82 Smith St  
Providence, RI 02903

**Testimony in support of H 7127, Article 1, EOHHS budget**

Dear Senator DiPalma:

As legislative liaison of the Nurse Practitioner Alliance of RI (NPARI), director of the Family Nurse Practitioner program at the University of RI, and a nurse practitioner for adolescents at Brown Health. I strongly urge your committee to support the proposed one time budget allocation of \$600,000 for Planned Parenthood of Southern New England (PPSNE). As a result of HR 1 (the big beautiful bill), PPSNE was defunded for all services. These include services for well women health care, including overall preventive screenings, management of contraception and sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment.

*Our teen-aged patients at Brown, have very limited options for women's health services. Often these patients have to wait months to obtain appointments for women's health care after we, in pediatrics, refer them. In addition, our nurse practitioner students can benefit from training sites at PPSNE. Women's health care is an essential component of primary care and women/ students would be negatively impacted by the loss of this funding. All women, throughout the lifespan have a right to focused, preventative health care assessment and treatment.*

We urge the committee to support H7127, Article 1.

Sincerely,

Denise Coppa, PhD, APRN, FAAN, FAANP  
Legislative Liaison.  
Senate district 35



<https://npari.enpnetwork.com>  
FB: @NPARIpage

• [NPARIgroup@gmail.com](mailto:NPARIgroup@gmail.com)  
• IG: @np\_alliance\_ri