



Michael Sroczynski
President

May 5, 2026

The Honorable Louis P. DiPalma
Chairman, House Committee on Finance
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Chairman DiPalma,

On behalf of the Hospital Association of Rhode Island (HARI) and our member hospitals, I write to express our support for advancing meaningful financial transparency, while raising serious concerns with the broader policy framework established in S.2097.

HARI and our member hospitals share the goal of ensuring transparency and accountability in the healthcare system. We remain committed to working with the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) and the General Assembly to strengthen the availability, consistency, and usefulness of financial information in a way that supports informed policymaking.

However, as drafted, the bill extends well beyond transparency and establishes a new and expansive oversight structure that includes state-directed financial assessments, determinations of “financial risk” and “imminent financial jeopardy,” and the authority to impose corrective actions and other interventions . These provisions raise significant concerns regarding the scope of authority, the standards by which such determinations would be made, and the potential for state-directed actions that could materially affect hospital operations, governance, and the delivery of care.

In addition, the bill creates new enforcement mechanisms, including financial penalties and requirements for corrective action plans, as well as provisions that could compel independent or forensic analyses at the expense of the provider . These elements introduce a level of regulatory intervention that warrants further review and careful consideration, particularly given the complexity of hospital financing and the critical role hospitals play in maintaining access to care.

While we appreciate the intent to promote fiscal integrity and system stability, we do not support the bill as currently drafted. We believe the broader provisions require additional work to ensure clarity of purpose, appropriate guardrails, and alignment with existing oversight structures.

HARI stands ready to work with EOHHS and the General Assembly to refine this legislation so that it achieves transparency objectives without introducing unintended consequences for Rhode Island’s healthcare system.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa P. Tomasso". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "T".

Lisa P. Tomasso
Senior Vice President