



May 5, 2026

Subject: SEIU 1199NE Position in Support of S-2811 – The Protect Our Healthcare Act

Dear Chairman DiPalma and Honorable Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

On behalf of SEIU 1199NE, representing approximately 7,500 healthcare and social service workers across Rhode Island, we write in support of S-2811.

Our members are seeing more patients without coverage or delaying care due to cost. As coverage is lost, more people rely on emergency rooms or go without care until their conditions become more serious.

Hospitals, community health centers, and clinics are already operating with limited capacity. An increase in uninsured patients will add strain to these systems and to the workers who provide care.

S-2811 helps address this by maintaining and expanding funding for care for the uninsured and creating a more structured approach to filling gaps in coverage.

Without this investment, more patients will fall through the cracks and seek care later, when it is more difficult and more expensive to treat. That shift will drive higher costs for the state, as more uninsured patients with high acuity needs end up relying on emergency rooms and other high-cost care settings.

We urge the Committee to pass S-2811.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex Moore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the "e".

Alex Moore

Political Director

SEIU 1199NE

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