

May 5, 2026

Senate Finance Committee

State of Rhode Island General Assembly

82 Smith Street, Providence, RI 02908

Dear Chairman DiPalma and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of S2831, which would provide \$2.7 million in funds for primary care training programs.

We believe that this bill is a crucial piece of the puzzle to solve our primary care crisis. As we stated in our Op-Ed in the Boston Globe in [January](#), expanding training options for Primary Care Providers (PCPs) in Rhode Island is one of the most effective ways to recruit physicians to the state and encourage them to stay¹. We need approximately 300-400 new providers to fill our current primary care gaps, which are expected to grow over time.

More funding will be needed over time, but there is urgent need to recruit PCPs to train in Rhode Island now. This bill represents an excellent first step. It has our full support.

Sincerely,




Dr. Amy Nunn

Chief Executive Officer
Rhode Island Public Health Institute



Dr. Philip Chan, MD

Chief Medical Officer
Rhode Island Public Health Institute



Max Erbe, MPH

Programs and Research Director
Rhode Island Public Health Institute



References

1. <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2026/01/23/metro/commentary-ri-health-primary-care-providers/>