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June 2, 2026

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

**RE: Support 3330 with proposed revisions**

Dear Chair DiPalma and Committee Members:

The Rhode Island Health Center Association (RIHCA), on behalf of the state's eight community health centers (CHCs), respectfully submits this letter in support of Senate Bill **3330**.

We appreciate that the bill recognizes that people who lose insurance will still need access to necessary care and that the costs of providing that care do not disappear. We support the concept of retaining "enrollment-driven savings" for providers that will bear the cost of caring for people who are uninsured.

We believe the bill's mechanism for delivering these funds to providers by increasing Medicaid rates may not be feasible under current regulations. Our understanding is that Medicaid rates are generally set using methodologies that recognize the cost of Medicaid-eligible services delivered to Medicaid-eligible individuals by Medicaid-eligible providers. If a Medicaid provider's costs increase because it is serving more people who are uninsured, that may not be a valid basis for increasing Medicaid rates.

We believe there may be other mechanisms to recognize those costs, such as stand-alone state-funded programs and uncompensated care pools. The state should engage in a public discussion to explore the most effective ways to ensure that people who lose insurance can still access the care they need. We believe S3330's commitment to the providers delivering that care provides a solid foundation for that discussion.

Sincerely,

*Elena Nicolella*

Elena Nicolella  
President and CEO

**The Rhode Island Health Center Association**

Blackstone Valley Community Health Care Inc. ~ Comprehensive Community Action Program  
East Bay Community Action Program ~ Providence Community Health Centers  
Thundermist Health Center ~ Tri-County Community Action Agency  
WellOne Primary Medical and Dental Care ~ Wood River Health