



April 14, 2026

Dear Chair Murray and Members, Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Re: S2386

SACRI's mission is to mobilize people to achieve power in order to implement an agenda that improves the quality of life of older Rhode Islanders. As issues related to healthcare are a priority for older adults, we are pleased to support S2386. The bill requires health insurance providers to cover services rendered by licensed pharmacists. By recognizing pharmacists as essential healthcare providers, this bill increases patient access to these valuable members of the healthcare team allowing patients to receive point-of-care consultation and education on medication management by highly trained clinical professionals allowing them to work at the top of their license.

Pharmacist interventions in promoting increased quality of care in such chronic conditions as diabetes, hypertension, asthma and kidney disease has been demonstrated. Here in our state, the RI Care Transformation Collaborative's Pharmacy Quality Initiative program is an example of how pharmacists can work collaboratively with primary practices to improve patient care.

By providing coverage for pharmacy services, health insurance plans can promote better management of these conditions leading to better long-term health outcomes for patients and potential cost savings for the state's healthcare system. And importantly, it recognizes the evolving role of pharmacists as important providers of clinical care.

We encourage the Committee to recommend passage of S2386 and thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
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