

14 April 2026

[submitted electronically via: Slegislation@rilegislature.gov]

The Honorable Melissa Murray Chair, Senate Health and Human Services Committee
State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

RE: S2386 – RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES – COVERAGE FOR PHARMACISTS’ SERVICES – **SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Murray and members of the Committee:

The following testimony was written by Spencer Donovan, a pharmacist and the Director for Legislation for the Rhode Island Society of Health-System Pharmacists. We are an organization that represents pharmacists that practice within the health care system including hospitals and ambulatory care clinics. My comments and support are representative of both my organization and myself. Thank you for allowing time to voice support for S2386.

Pharmacists are an invaluable resource for patients as some of the most readily accessible healthcare providers in the United States and who already serve in many practice settings as collaborators in primary care delivery. Rhode Island faces a significant primary care access challenge and although pharmacists currently provide high-quality care and are working to alleviate this burden, without coverage of these services by health plans this practice may not be sustainable. S2386 would address this gap in health plan coverage by requiring coverage of pharmacist services within their current scope of practice and to the same extent those services would be covered if provided by a physician, advance practice nurse, or physician assistant. Such services would include common pharmacist services including patient evaluation and management, medication therapy management, immunization education and administration, and the ordering and evaluation of clinical laboratory tests.

We urge you to support S2386 as it will not only acknowledge the vital role of pharmacists as primary care providers but also improve the quality of healthcare for the citizens of Rhode Island. Thank you for considering this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Spencer Donovan, PharmD, MHA, DPLA
Director of Legislation, Rhode Island Society of Health-System Pharmacists