



April 14, 2026

The Honorable Senator Melissa A. Murray, Chair
The Honorable Senator Pamela J. Lauria, Vice Chair
The Honorable Senator Lori Urso, Secretary
Senate Health and Human Services Committee
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

RE: Support for S 2468

Dear Chair

Chair Melissa A. Murray, Vice Chair Pamela J. Lauria, Secretary Lori Urso, and members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee

On behalf of the State Access to Innovative Medicine (SAIM) Coalition, we write to express our strong support for S. 2468. This important legislation will help ensure that patients in Rhode Island have timely and appropriate access to the medications prescribed by their healthcare providers.

The State Access to Innovative Medicines (SAIM) Coalition's mission is to facilitate collaboration between patient advocacy, health care provider, and life sciences organizations to advance state policies that improve patient access to innovative medicines. This includes developing policy positions and resources that underpin these strategies and partnering with non-member organizations at the state level to drive successful legislative, regulatory, and grassroots strategies.

Patients living with chronic, complex, and often life-altering conditions rely on consistent access to innovative and effective treatments. However, utilization management tools, while intended to control costs, can sometimes create barriers that delay or disrupt care. These delays can lead to disease progression, increased healthcare utilization, and diminished quality of life.

S. 2468 takes a balanced, patient-centered approach by establishing clear and reasonable standards that ensure patients can access medically necessary treatments without undue delay. By reinforcing the importance of clinical decision-making and the provider-patient relationship, this legislation helps ensure that treatment decisions are based on individual patient needs rather than one-size-fits-all protocols.

SAIM COALITION

— STATE ACCESS TO INNOVATIVE MEDICINES —

Importantly, policies that improve access to appropriate therapies can also lead to better health outcomes and, over time, reduce avoidable healthcare costs associated with complications, hospitalizations, and disease progression. Ensuring that patients receive the right treatment at the right time is both sound clinical policy and responsible healthcare policy.

We appreciate your leadership and consideration of S. 2468 and respectfully urge your support. The SAIM Coalition stands ready to serve as a resource and provide any additional information that may be helpful as you consider this legislation.

Sincerely,

Carolyn G. Sheridan, MPH
Co-Chair SAIM

Dominique Brown, MPA
Co-Chair SAIM

On behalf of the State Access to Innovative Medicine (SAIM) Coalition

Allergy and Asthma Network
Alliance for Patient Access
Alliance for Headache Disorders Advocacy
American Academy of Dermatology Association
American Academy of Neurology
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
Amgen
Arthritis Foundation
Association for Clinical Oncology
Autoimmune Association
Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations
Crohn's & Colitis Foundation
Epilepsy Foundation of America
Genentech
Lupus Foundation of America
Merck
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Eczema Association
National Bleeding Disorders Foundation
National Organization for Rare Disorders
National Psoriasis Foundation
Parkinson's Foundation
Sanofi
Takeda