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Rhode Island General Assembly, State Senate  
Senate Health and Human Services Committee  
(Submitted electronically via [SLegislation@rilegislature.gov](mailto:SLegislation@rilegislature.gov))

Re: Support for Senate Bill 2562

Dear Chair Murray and Members of the Committee:

Please accept the Rhode Island Health Center Association's (RIHCA) letter in **support of Senate Bill 2562**. This bill would create sustained funding for the perinatal and pediatric psychiatric teleconsultation lines, RI MomsPRN and PediPRN, and ensure access to mental and behavioral health services and care for Rhode Island children and families.

Rhode Island's eight community health centers provide primary care to over 220,000 adults and children. MomsPRN and PediPRN effectively facilitate same-day psychiatric telephone consultations for health care providers serving mothers and children in primary care settings, allowing patients to continue receiving care from their established clinicians and ensuring continuity of care. By maintaining patient relationships, we can also help to improve patient outcomes, reduce barriers to care, and reduce the frequency of emergency room visits for mental health concerns.

RIHCA urges you to pass Senate Bill 2562 and create sustained funding for programs that support practices and providers in caring for the mental and behavioral health needs of their patients.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*M Campbell*

Melissa Campbell  
Policy Manager

The Rhode Island Health Center Association members include:  
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