



# RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY

Chairperson Melissa Murray  
Senate Health & Human Services Committee  
Rhode Island Senate  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

Support – S 2568

February 26, 2026

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Rhode Island Medical Society (RIMS), representing physicians across specialties and practice settings throughout the state, we write in support of S 2568, which strengthens Rhode Island law by ensuring that routine childhood and adult immunization recommendations remain grounded in evidence-based, medically sound scientific research and informed by recognized medical professional organizations.

Physicians strongly support maintaining clear statutory alignment with established clinical guidance. By incorporating nationally recognized professional organizations and advisory review into the immunization framework, S 2568 reinforces transparency, scientific integrity, and public confidence in Rhode Island's vaccination program. RIMS respectfully offers two technical clarifications to further strengthen implementation:

First, we recommend revising the reference to recommendations from ACIP and AAP to read "ACIP or AAP." The distinction matters: "and" requires agreement between both organizations before implementation applies, which could limit access if recommendations differ. Using "or" preserves flexibility and ensures Rhode Islanders maintain access to vaccines recommended by either nationally recognized authority.

Second, because this statute applies to both childhood and adult immunization, we recommend adding the American College of Physicians (ACP) to the list of referenced professional medical organizations to ensure adult medicine expertise is explicitly represented alongside pediatric and family medicine perspectives.

These suggested refinements are intended to support the bill's long-term clarity and consistency while fully preserving its strong public health intent.

The Rhode Island Medical Society appreciates the Committee's leadership in promoting evidence-based preventive care and respectfully urges passage of S 2568.

Sincerely,

Nadine Himelfarb, MD  
President