



Michael Sroczynski  
President

April 13, 2026

The Honorable Melissa A. Murray  
Chair, Senate Committee on Health and Human Services  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Re: Support S.2685

Dear Chairperson Murray,

On behalf of the Hospital Association of Rhode Island (HARI), I write in **strong support of S.2685**, legislation that modernizes Rhode Island's emergency medical services system by establishing a Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) Community Paramedicine Program and ensuring sustainable reimbursement for ground ambulance services.

Hospitals in Rhode Island depend on strong partnerships with EMS providers to deliver timely, coordinated care. S.2685 strengthens those partnerships and supports innovative care models that better meet patients' needs outside of traditional healthcare settings.

**Enhancing Patient-Centered Care.** Establishing a formal MIH and community paramedicine framework allows EMS practitioners to work in closer collaboration with hospital-based physicians and community health teams. These programs allow providers to meet patients where they are—often in their homes—helping address emerging health needs earlier and reducing avoidable emergency department visits and hospital readmissions.

**Supporting EMS Sustainability.** Aligning reimbursement for ground ambulance services with Medicare standards—including payment when treatment is provided on-site without transport—recognizes the clinical value of EMS care and supports the infrastructure of EMS providers who are essential partners in the healthcare system.

**Expanding Access to Innovative Care.** By ensuring mobile integrated health services are covered across major insurance types, the bill expands access to these services for Rhode Islanders regardless of their insurance coverage.

**For these reasons, HARI respectfully urges the Committee to recommend passage of S.2685.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa P. Tomasso". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Lisa P. Tomasso  
Senior Vice President