

2 April 2026

[submitted electronically via: [slegislation@rilegislature.gov](mailto:slegislation@rilegislature.gov)]

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

**RE: SUPPORT – S2866 – AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS --  
COLLABORATIVE PHARMACY PRACTICE**

Dear Chair Murray and Members of the Committee,

My name is Connor Charbonneau, and I am a fourth-year Pharm.D. student at the University of Rhode Island. I am writing in support of Senate Bill 2866, which modernizes the current collaborative pharmacy practice model in Rhode Island by allowing pharmacists to establish collaborative practice agreements directly with licensed providers and by removing unnecessary board approval processes.

Collaborative pharmacy practice agreements are structured, written arrangements that allow pharmacists with advanced training to initiate, adjust, monitor, or discontinue drug therapy under an agreed-upon protocol. These models are evidence-based and widely utilized across the country to enhance chronic disease management, improve medication safety, and expand access to care.

In practice, administrative delays in approving these agreements can slow patient access to necessary treatment without adding meaningful safety protections. S2866 preserves accountability by requiring formal written agreements, annual review, adherence to established clinical guidelines, and continued board oversight authority if concerns arise. This bill removes duplicative pre-approval processes that can unnecessarily hinder and delay team-based care.

Throughout my training, particularly through my work at URI Health Services, I have seen how administrative delays can impact patient care for those with chronic conditions, including access to timely refills, especially in the area of mental health.

At Rhode Island Hospital's emergency department, I have also observed cases in which inadequate management of chronic conditions leads to acute complications - many of which could be avoided with improved access to care.

Pharmacists are among the most accessible healthcare professionals, and with modernized collaborative practice models, they are well-positioned to better serve our communities. S2866 streamlines the process while still requiring formal written agreements, appropriate clinical oversight, and clearly defined patient safety protections. By reducing administrative barriers

while maintaining accountability, this legislation strengthens patient-based care and improves access to safe, efficient, and high-quality treatment for Rhode Islanders.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Connor Charbonneau", followed by a horizontal line.

Connor Charbonneau

Doctor of Pharmacy Candidate 2028

Pawtucket, Rhode Island