



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 3061

March 24, 2026

Chair Murray and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Rhode Island Medical Society (RIMS), I am writing in support of S3061, which would remove prior authorization requirements for a limited period of post-acute care services following hospital discharge.

Delays in authorization for post-acute care—whether in skilled nursing, rehabilitation, or home-based settings—can disrupt discharge planning, prolong hospital stays, and delay recovery. These delays place additional strain on both patients and an already overburdened healthcare system.

S3061 takes a balanced approach by allowing a minimum of seven days of post-acute care without prior authorization, while still permitting utilization review to begin after that period.

This ensures that patients can transition to appropriate care in a timely manner based on the clinical judgment of the treating provider, while preserving appropriate oversight.

Reducing administrative barriers at this critical transition point is an important step toward improving patient outcomes and system efficiency.

RIMS strongly supports this legislation and urges the Committee to act favorably.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nadine Himelfarb, MD
President