

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**



Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

14 Harrington Road  
Cranston, RI 02920-3080

TEL: (401) 462-3201

FAX: (401) 462-3204

TDD: (401) 462-6087

May 21, 2026

The Honorable Melissa Murray, Chair  
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: 2026 — S 3259 — An Act Relating to Food and Drugs – Uniform Controlled Substances Act**

Dear Chair Murray:

Please accept this letter of support for S 3259, which would revise sections of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act (UCSA) to remove specific dosage requirements and revise the UCSA in accordance with current standards of professional practice. This bill also would repeal Chapter 37.4 of Title 5 relating to the treatment of intractable pain.

If enacted, this legislation would ensure that Rhode Island's opioid prescribing requirements will be aligned with national professional standards and evidence-based practices for pain management and the treatment of opioid use disorders to continue the progress the State has achieved in reducing opioid-related overdose deaths.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our support to the Department of Health in their collaborative efforts to ensure that opioid medications are prescribed safely and appropriately to those individuals who require them for pain management and to treat opioid use disorders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Leclerc".

Richard Leclerc  
Director

cc: The Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services  
Kristen Silvia, Director of Legislation and Deputy Chief of Staff