



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
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*Peter F. Neronha*  
*Attorney General*

May 28, 2024

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.  
Chairman  
House Committee on Corporations  
State House, Room 135  
Providence, RI 02903

**Re: HB 8041: Prescription Drug Benefits**

Dear Chairman Solomon and Members of the House Corporations Committee,

I write today to express support for HB 8041, sponsored by Representative Mia Ackerman, legislation that would require all health insurance carriers, health plans, and PBMs to apply any amount paid by a third party or the enrollee towards the out-of-pocket maximum.

Copay assistance programs offered by drug manufacturers or nonprofit organizations often provide coupons or payments on behalf of enrollees who are in need of drug prescriptions that they cannot afford. However, insurers and pharmacy benefit managers often prohibit manufacturer payments from counting towards the enrollees out of pocket maximum – needlessly and wrongly driving up out-of-pocket health care costs for our most vulnerable Rhode Islanders. This legislation prevents insurers and PBMs from exploiting this practice and will help reduce the out-of-pocket health care costs for our community members dealing with chronic conditions.

All patients should be able to afford necessary health care treatments, regardless of their financial circumstances. For these reasons, I support this legislation and appreciate the Committee's consideration.

Thank you,

Peter F. Neronha  
Attorney General