

RHODE ISLAND
PHYSICIANS CORPORATION
PRIMARY CARE

I am writing to express my strong support for bill H 7903

My name is Noah Benedict. I am the President and CEO of Rhode Island Primary Care Physicians Corporation (RIPCPC), the largest Independent Practice Association (IPA) in Rhode Island. Representing 168 primary care providers, RIPCPC manages the care of over 200,000 lives and stands at the forefront of healthcare delivery in the region.

I stand in strong support of House Bill H 7903, also known as "The Medical Primary Care Scholarship Program." This crucial legislation addresses the pressing issue of the shortage of primary care healthcare providers in our state.

The findings outlined in the bill paint a stark picture of the challenges facing primary care in Rhode Island. From the national and regional shortages of healthcare providers to the difficulties in recruiting and retaining professionals, it's evident that action is needed to ensure all Rhode Islanders have access to quality healthcare services.

The establishment of the Medical Primary Care Scholarship Program is a proactive step towards addressing these challenges. By providing scholarships for medical school, nurse practitioner, and physician assistant programs, this bill incentivizes individuals to pursue careers in primary care. Not only does this address the shortage of healthcare providers, but it also fosters the next generation of professionals dedicated to serving our communities.

The conditions set forth in the bill, including the requirement for recipients to work in Rhode Island upon completion of their education, ensure that our state benefits directly from this investment in healthcare professionals. By forgiving scholarship funds for each year of service provided in Rhode Island, the bill encourages long-term commitments to serve our community's healthcare needs.

Moreover, the provisions outlined in the bill demonstrate a commitment to sustaining this program over the long term, ensuring its effectiveness in addressing the primary care crisis in Rhode Island.

I urge our legislators to support House Bill H 7903. By investing in the education and training of primary care providers, we will improve access to healthcare services and promote the overall health and well-being of all Rhode Islanders.

Sincerely,



Noah Benedict

President & CEO

Rhode Island Primary Care Physicians Corporation