



May 1, 2024

[submitted electronically via: HouseFinance@rilegislature.gov]

The Honorable Marvin L. Abney
Chair, House Committee
82 Smith St.
Providence, RI 02903

RE: H7273 (Casimiro) – ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES - Requires insurance coverage for all services provided by a pharmacist provided coverage of such services would have been covered if provided by a physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant – **SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Abney, First Vice Chair Slater, Second Vice Chair Marszalkowski and members of the House Finance Committee:

The following testimony was written by Rachel Savoie a pharmacist, and the Director for Legislation for the Rhode Island Society of Health System Pharmacists. We are an organization that represents pharmacists that practice within the health care system including hospitals and ambulatory care clinics. My comments and support are representative of both my organization and myself. Thank you for allowing some time to voice support for H7273.

Health-system pharmacists are integral members of the healthcare team, contributing to the management of complex medication therapies and ensuring the safe and effective use of medications. They are highly trained professionals who work collaboratively with physicians, nurses, and other healthcare providers to optimize medication use and improve patient outcomes. In the ambulatory care setting, pharmacists manage chronic diseases, provide medication therapy management, and educate patients on the proper use of their medications.

The inclusion of pharmacists as recognized providers would enable our health system to bill for these services, which are currently provided but often unreimbursed. This would allow us to expand our services, improve access to care, and reduce the overall cost of healthcare by preventing hospital readmissions and other costly complications. Furthermore, the passage of H7273 would align Rhode Island with other states that have already acknowledged the value of pharmacists in healthcare delivery. This bill would ensure that our patients receive the full spectrum of care that pharmacists are trained to provide, thereby enhancing the health of our community.

We urge you to support H7273, as it will not only acknowledge the vital role of health-system pharmacists but also improve the quality of healthcare for the citizens of Rhode Island. Thank you for considering this important legislation.



**Rhode Island Society of
Health-System Pharmacists**

Sincerely,

Rachel Savoie, PharmD

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