



March 12, 2024

Chairperson Susan Donovan  
House Committee on Health & Human Services  
State House, Room 135  
Providence, RI 02906

Dear Chairperson Donovan,

On behalf of Thundermist Health Center, I would like to express strong support **H 7826 – Nurses**, that would grant temporary licensure to registered nurse graduates prior to receiving their National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) results.

The current healthcare landscape faces a critical shortage of nurses. This deficit significantly impacts patient care, straining existing staff and limiting access to essential medical services. Expediting the licensing process can help alleviate this burden by increasing the available workforce to assist in addressing the current nursing shortage that Thundermist and many other healthcare facilities are facing. This temporary status to allow graduate nurses provide medical care will improve efficiency in the healthcare delivery system and at the same time alleviate the stress on existing staff.

By allowing this temporary practice status while adhering to existing registration measures, this legislation offers a solution to the pressing issue of nurse shortage. This will ultimately benefit the healthcare system, medical professionals, and most importantly, the patients who rely on their care.

I urge the members of the House Health and Human Services Committee to enact this legislation to assist Thundermist Health Center and the state's entire healthcare facility network in maintaining a robust and efficient nursing workforce.

Sincerely,

Karen Mazzola, MSN, RN, NEA-BC  
Chief of Clinical Operation

**WOONSOCKET**

*Medical*  
450 Clinton St.  
Woonsocket, RI 02895

Phone: 401-767-4100  
Fax: 401-235-6896

*Dental & WIC*

25 John A. Cummings Way  
Woonsocket, RI 02895

Dental Phone: 401-767-4161  
Dental Fax: 401-767-5441

WIC Phone: 401-767-4109  
WIC Fax: 401-235-6883

**WEST WARWICK**

*Medical*  
186 Providence St.  
West Warwick, RI 02893

Phone: 401-615-2800  
Fax: 401-615-2805

*Dental*

5 Washington St.  
West Warwick, RI 02893

Phone: 401-615-2804  
Fax: 401-352-6248

**SOUTH COUNTY**

*Medical & Dental*  
1 River St.  
Wakefield, RI 02879

Phone: 401-783-0523  
Fax: 401-783-9448

Dental Phone: 401-783-5646  
Dental Fax: 401-284-2081

*Pediatrics*

360 Kingstown Rd.  
Suite 101  
Narragansett, RI 02882

Phone: 401-789-6492  
Fax: 401-783-9448