

February 25, 2025

[submitted electronically via: HouseHealthandHumanServices@rilegislature.gov]

The Honorable Susan R. Donovan Chair, House Committee 82 Smith St. Providence, RI 02903

RE: H5353 (Casimiro) – PHARMACY TECHNICIANS – Scope of Practice and Dispensing Process Validation – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Donovan, First Vice Chair Giraldo, Second Vice Chair Potter, and members of the House Health & Human Services Committee:

The following testimony is written by Conor McGladrigan, a pharmacist and President of the Rhode Island Society of Health-System Pharmacists (RISHP). RISHP represents pharmacists and pharmacy technicians working within various institutional healthcare settings, including hospitals and clinics. My comments and support are representative of both me and RISHP. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to voice support for H5353.

Pharmacy technicians are crucial members of the pharmacy team, contributing significantly to the medication dispensing process. By allowing technicians to perform technology-assisted dispensing process validation, pharmacists can dedicate more time to clinical duties, such as medication therapy management and patient counseling, ultimately improving patient outcomes.

This delegation is not only efficient but also supported by evidence. Published evidence from the American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy indicates that pharmacy technicians can perform the final validation of unit dose orders in institutional settings with accuracy comparable to, or even exceeding, that of pharmacists. In fact, this likely explains why more than half of the US permits this practice through regulation or legislation.

We urge you to support H5353, as it will acknowledge the vital role of pharmacy technicians and improve the quality of healthcare delivery in Rhode Island. Thank you for considering this important legislation.

Rachel Savoie

Sincerely,

Conor McGladrigan, PharmD, JD, BCOP, BCSCP President, RI Society of Health-System Pharmacists

Conor McGladrigan

Rachel Savoie, PharmD Legislative Director, RI Society of Health System Pharmacists

