



April 1, 2025

Rhode Island Health and Human Services Committee

Dear Chair Donovan and members of the Committee:

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society is grateful for the opportunity to provide comments supporting HB 5172.

LLS' mission is to cure blood cancer and improve all patients' and their families' quality of life. In light of this mission, LLS supports legislative efforts to increase transparency, accountability, and patient protection in the usage of artificial intelligence (AI) and other automated decision-making systems in healthcare and health insurance decision-making.

AI has the potential to transform healthcare by improving patient care, streamlining administrative processes, and reducing costs. However, integrating AI into healthcare raises concerns about data privacy, patient safety, and the risk of worsening health disparities if not implemented carefully. To deploy AI tools responsibly, it is crucial to ensure proper safeguards exist to protect patients from adverse outcomes.

Proprietary software, like AI tools that can contain biases in algorithms, used as the sole basis to deny, reduce, terminate, or fail to cover healthcare for Rhode Islanders, should be transparent, fair to all, accountable, and have a degree of human interaction and oversight as outlined in HB 5172. Positive steps contained in HB 5172 include comprehensive data, privacy, and security measures that are disclosed and outlined. Continuous quality monitoring and establishing clear best practices will help pave the way forward, while independent audits will help ensure that AI systems remain safe and effective over time.

HB 5172 represents critical steps in securing proper guardrails to ensure AI tools are used carefully, ethically, and transparently while prioritizing patient safety and meaningful access to care. HB 5172 is a positive step that ensures that AI benefits all Rhode Islanders, not just a select few.

Thank you for your support of HB 5172.

Sincerely,

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