

April 1, 2025

The Honorable Susan R. Donovan
Chairperson, House Committee on Health and Human Services
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

RE: Letter regarding H-6119 – AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT – THE RHODE ISLAND HEALTH CARE REFORM ACT OF 2004 – HEALTH INSURANCE OVERSIGHT

## Dear Chairperson Donovan:

I write on behalf of the State of Rhode Island Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner (OHIC) regarding House Bill 6119. This legislation proposes amendments to OHIC's enabling statute which would require OHIC to analyze, study, and make recommendations concerning reimbursement and financing for the provision of primary care services in Rhode Island. OHIC supports the goals of this legislation and notes that Article 8, Section 8, of Governor McKee's FY 2026 recommended budget accomplishes similar ends by adding primary care services to the scope of the social and human services rate review. House Bill 6119 sets forth a more aggressive timeframe for completing a review of primary care reimbursement than the Article 8 language, which relies on the existing biennial social and human services rate review cadence. Furthermore, House Bill 6119 requires a broader analysis of primary care financing.

Most of the work required under this legislation must be completed in FY 2026 and funding for this scope of work is not presently incorporated into OHIC's FY 2026 budget. OHIC would need specific funding to do this work.

Thank you for your continued leadership and hard work on all matters related to the health of Rhode Islanders.

Sincerely,

Cong B King

Cory B. King Health Insurance Commissioner

CC: Honorable Members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services
Honorable Kathleen A. Fogarty
Nicole McCarty, Esquire, Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House