



4/1/2025

The Honorable Susan R. Donovan
House Health and Human Service Committee
State of Rhode Island General Assembly
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Support for H6119

Chair Donovan and Members of the House Health and Human Services Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of H6119, which would add to the powers and duties of the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner (OHIC) the undertaking of analyses, reports, studies, and recommendations with respect to reimbursement and financing for the provision of primary care services to Rhode Islanders. The act would establish a nine member advisory committee to advise the OHIC.

My name is Margaret Holland McDuff, and I am CEO of FSRI. FSRI is a behavioral health and social service organization with the mission "to advance equity, hope, and opportunity in our communities." FSRI has been serving Rhode Islanders for decades, including programming to support healthy child development, provide essential behavioral health services, and coordinate crisis intervention programs that help children and families thrive.

I have had the pleasure of working closely with OHIC over the past few years as a member of the Social and Human Service Programs Review Advisory Council following the passage of the rate review legislation in 2022. This legislation, which resulted from a crisis in our state's human service workforce, is key to ensuring that social and human services are reimbursed at a rate reasonable to cover the service. This same action is need to address the current primary care provider shortage in our state.

We need to pass H6119 and ensure the health and stability of primary care in Rhode Island. Thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of this bill, and please feel free to contact me with any questions or follow-up.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Margaret Holland McDuff'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Margaret Holland McDuff
CEO