



*Together for Children. Families. Communities.*

April 1, 2025

Honorable Susan Donovan  
Chairwoman, House Health and Human Services Committee  
RI State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: H6119 - THE RHODE ISLAND HEALTH CARE REFORM ACT OF 2004 -- HEALTH INSURANCE OVERSIGHT**

Chairwoman Donovan and members of the House Health and Human Services Committee:

The Rhode Island Coalition for Children and Families, a member of the OHIC Social and Human Services Review Advisory Committee, strongly supports H-6119 and the inclusion of primary care within the scope of rate review through OHIC to ensure critical updating of critical primary care rates.

Primary care for children and their parents is a critical resource to ensure the well-being and safety and stability of families. Pediatricians are often the front line in recognizing challenges and making critical referrals to other systems. Our primary care system is at a breaking point and more primary care providers are critically needed.

We share the concern and recommendations of other advocates, however, that primary care needs its own review that is separate from critical Social and Human Services programs, and includes additional analyses such as:

- Using an "all-payer" lens, allowing understanding of the different roles played by Medicaid, commercial insurance, and Medicare,
- Leveraging the States authority in regulating commercial insurance, in addition to its role in financing Medicaid,
- Analyzing and making recommendations not just about fee-for-service reimbursement levels, but also about alternative payment methodologies, and
- Including the FQHCs which are a critical provider system for families served by RICCF members.

Finally, we believe that the primary care rate review should be conducted as soon as possible and ideally alternated with the social and human services reviews such that they are not competing for critical financial resources.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tanja Kubas Meyer".

Tanja Kubas Meyer  
Executive Director