

February 14, 2024

The Honorable Arthur J. Corvese  
Chair, House Committee on Labor  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Testimony in **SUPPORT** of **H 7171**

Chair Corvese:

RIPIN thanks the House Committee on Labor for the opportunity to submit this testimony **in support of H 7171**, which would expand access to the benefits of Temporary Caregiver Insurance (TCI) in Rhode Island.

RIPIN has consistently advocated for programs and policies that promote the well-being of our communities. We recognize the importance of supporting caregivers who provide essential care to family members facing various challenges, including medical fragility, social-emotional and behavioral issues, rare diseases, and advanced age. The proposed expansion of TCI to include siblings, grandchildren, and care recipients, along with the extension of the maximum benefit weeks from six to twelve, is a significant step towards addressing the diverse caregiving needs of Rhode Islanders.

Our organization comprises dedicated individuals who are both caregivers and professionals serving the needs of our communities. We understand the unpredictable nature of caregiving responsibilities and the immense strain it can place on families. Expanding TCI eligibility will enable caregivers to fulfill their responsibilities while maintaining financial stability and employment. This, in turn, will contribute to the overall well-being of caregivers and their loved ones, allowing them to heal and thrive in the comfort of their homes.

Passing this bill will provide new opportunities to strengthen our communities and workforce. Providing caregivers with the necessary resources and support not only enhances their ability to care for their loved ones but also ensures the availability of quality services for all Rhode Islanders.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments in support of H 7171. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,





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