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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- LABOR RELATIONS ACT--NO
LIMITATION ON HEALTHCARE BENEFIT PROVIDERS

Introduced By: Representatives J. Brien, Corvese, Casey, and Messier

Date Introduced: February 27, 2026

Referred To: House Labor

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 28-7-49 of the General Laws in Chapter 28-7 entitled "Labor
2 Relations Act" is hereby repealed.

3 ~~**28-7-49. No limitation on healthcare benefit providers.**~~

4 ~~No collective bargaining agreement covering any group or groups of state employees,
5 public school teachers, or employees of any city or town, ratified after August 1, 2008, shall specify
6 that an employer must procure a healthcare benefit plan from a specific provider of such plans. The
7 technical qualifications of the healthcare benefit plan, to be contracted for, shall not be framed or
8 constructed in a manner designed to identify an exclusive provider of said healthcare services.~~

9 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- LABOR RELATIONS ACT--NO
LIMITATION ON HEALTHCARE BENEFIT PROVIDERS

1 This act would repeal the law that prevents a collective bargaining agreement covering
2 state employees, public school teachers and municipal employees from specifying a particular
3 healthcare provider in it.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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