

2023 -- S 0782

LC002328

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT – OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced By: Senators DiPalma, Miller, Lauria, and Murray

Date Introduced: March 23, 2023

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Legislative findings.

2 The general assembly hereby finds that:

3 The FY 2023 state budget invested in a long-term plan to address systemic issues in the
4 health and human service delivery system by requiring that the office of the health insurance
5 commissioner shall conduct an analysis of the impact of the provisions of § 27-38.2-1(i) on health
6 insurance premiums and access in Rhode Island and submit a report of its findings to the general
7 assembly on or before June 1, 2023. Until such time as the rate-review process begins to yield
8 conclusions, it is critical for the state to continue making progress and maintaining investments in
9 staffing and the providers who are daily uplifting our most vulnerable residents. This investment
10 will provide a staircase towards rates that will likely be recommended in the rate-review process.

11 SECTION 2. Chapter 42-7.2 of the General Laws entitled "Office of Health and Human
12 Services" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

13 **42-7.2-2.1. Appropriation for stabilization and care for providers.**

14 There is hereby appropriated an increase of two hundred million dollars (\$200,000,000)
15 (all funds) for home and community based providers of health and human services to provide a
16 minimum ten percent (10%) rate increase in the FY 2024 state budget in order that providers may
17 stabilize staffing levels, ensure adequate and safe care of residents and combat surging costs and
18 prices reflected in the annual inflation rate for the United States of six and four-tenths percent

1 [\(6.4%\) for the twelve \(12\) month period ending January 2023 after rising six and five-tenths percent](#)
2 [\(6.5%\) previously, according to U.S. Department of Labor.](#)

3 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT – OFFICE OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES

1 This act would appropriate two hundred million dollars (\$200,000,000) for home and
2 community based providers of health and human services to provide a ten percent (10%) rate
3 increase in order that providers may stabilize staffing levels, ensure adequate and safe care of
4 residents and combat surging prices.

5 This act would take effect on July 1, 2024.

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