

2025 -- H 5792

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

JOINT RESOLUTION

TO AMEND THE MEDICAID SECTION 1115 DEMONSTRATION WAIVER REQUESTS
AND RENEWALS – RHODE ISLAND MEDICAID REFORM ACT OF 2008

Introduced By: Representatives Bennett, Speakman, Cortvriend, Donovan, Cruz,
Phillips, Perez, Hopkins, Noret, and Solomon

Date Introduced: February 26, 2025

Referred To: House Finance

1 WHEREAS, The General Assembly enacted Chapter 12.4 of Title 42 entitled “The
2 Rhode Island Medicaid Reform Act of 2008”; and

3 WHEREAS, A legislative enactment is required pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws
4 chapter 12.4 of title 42, et seq.; and

5 WHEREAS, Rhode Island General Laws § 42-7.2-5(3)(i) provides that the secretary of
6 the executive office of health and human services is responsible for the review and coordination
7 of any Medicaid section 1115 demonstration waiver requests and renewals as well as any
8 initiatives and proposals requiring amendments to the Medicaid state plan or category II or III
9 changes as described in the demonstration, “with potential to affect the scope, amount, or
10 duration of publicly-funded health care services, provider payments or reimbursements, or access
11 to or the availability of benefits and services provided by Rhode Island general and public laws”;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, In pursuit of a more cost-effective consumer choice system of care that is
14 fiscally sound and sustainable, the secretary requests legislative approval of the following
15 proposals to amend the demonstration; and

16 WHEREAS, Implementation of adjustments may require amendments to the Rhode
17 Island’s Medicaid state plan and/or section 1115 waiver under the terms and conditions of the
18 demonstration. Further, adoption of new or amended rules, regulations and procedures may also
19 be required:

1 (1) Nursing facility rate increase alignment with state revenue growth. The executive
2 office of health and human services will pursue and implement any state plan amendments
3 needed to limit rate increases for nursing facilities in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 to the anticipated
4 rate of growth of state tax revenue, estimated to be 2.3 percent.

5 (2) Inpatient and outpatient hospital rate increase alignment with state revenue growth.
6 The executive office of health and human services will pursue and implement any state plan
7 amendments needed to limit rate increases for inpatient and outpatient hospital services in Fiscal
8 Year 2025-2026 to the anticipated rate of growth of state tax revenue, estimated to be 2.3 percent.

9 (3) Home care rates. The secretary of the executive office of health and human services
10 will pursue and implement any state plan amendments needed to eliminate annual rate increases
11 for home care services.

12 (4) Elimination of inpatient and outpatient hospital upper payment limit payments. The
13 secretary of the executive office of health and human services will pursue and implement any
14 state plan amendments needed to eliminate inpatient and outpatient hospital upper payment limit
15 payments.

16 (5) Establishment of interprofessional consultation program. The secretary of the
17 executive office of health and human services will pursue and implement any state plan
18 amendments needed to establish an interprofessional consultation program in Medicaid effective
19 October 1, 2025.

20 (6) Federal financing opportunities. The executive office health and human services
21 proposes that it shall review Medicaid requirements and opportunities under the U.S. Patient
22 Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (PPACA) and various other recently enacted federal
23 laws and pursue any changes in the Rhode Island Medicaid program that promote, increase and
24 enhance service quality, access and cost-effectiveness that may require a Medicaid state plan
25 amendment or amendment under the terms and conditions of Rhode Island's section 1115 waiver,
26 its successor, or any extension thereof. Any such actions by the executive office of health and
27 human services shall not have an adverse impact on beneficiaries or cause there to be an increase
28 in expenditures beyond the amount appropriated for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

29 (7) Hospital state directed managed care payment. The secretary of the executive office is
30 hereby authorized and directed to amend its regulations for reimbursement to Medicaid Managed
31 Care Organizations and authorized to direct MMCOs to make quarterly state directed payments to
32 hospitals for inpatient and outpatient services in accordance with the payment methodology
33 contained in the approved Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services preprint for hospital state
34 directed payments. The total amount of these payments for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 shall be \$396

1 million; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly hereby approves the above-referenced
3 proposals; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the secretary of the executive office of health and human services is
5 authorized to pursue and implement any waiver amendments, state plan amendments, and/or
6 changes to the applicable department's rules, regulations and procedures approved herein and as
7 authorized by Rhode Island general laws chapter 12.4 of title 42; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, that this Joint Resolution shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
JOINT RESOLUTION
TO AMEND THE MEDICAID SECTION 1115 DEMONSTRATION WAIVER REQUESTS
AND RENEWALS – RHODE ISLAND MEDICAID REFORM ACT OF 2008

- 1 This joint resolution would approve an amendment to the Medicaid section 1115
- 2 demonstration waiver requests and renewals.
- 3 This Joint Resolution would take effect on July 1, 2025.

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