



RIPIN 2024 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Parental Engagement in the IEP Process | *H7721 (Kislak), S2526 (DiMario)*

Parents want more meaningful engagement when it comes to their child's Individualized Education Program (IEP). RIPIN supports legislation that requires schools to provide IEP documents to parents at least three days before any IEP meeting, guarantees parents' rights to observe placements proposed for their child, and restores the requirement that schools obtain written parental consent before making changes to a student's IEP.

HEALTH CARE

Necessary Investments in Social and Human Services | *FY25 Budget*

Recognizing the need to increase funding for community-based services in a fair and consistent way, the General Assembly charged the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner (OHIC) with performing a comprehensive rate review process and providing rate recommendations. OHIC's rigorous analysis showed that rates are often way too low to cover providers' costs, resulting in serious access challenges. RIPIN calls on the General Assembly to enact the full rate increases recommended by OHIC this year.

HEALTHY AGING

Expand Access to Medicare Savings Programs | *H7333 (Alzate), S2399 (Cano)*

Many older adults and Rhode Islanders with disabilities are forced to choose between health care, housing, food, and other necessities. Using mostly federal funds, this legislation to raise the income limit and eliminate the asset test for the Medicare Savings Programs will increase approximately 17,000 Rhode Islanders' Social Security checks by as much as 10% monthly and will help cover out-of-pocket costs for some of our lowest-income neighbors.

Help Seniors Discharge Home from Hospital | *H-7597 (Tanzi) and S-2577 (DiPalma)*

After a hospital stay, most patients prefer to recover at home and avoid long stays in a nursing home, and that is also the most cost-effective option. RIPIN's Hospital Care Transitions Initiative (HCTI) embeds community health workers into hospital discharge teams to help high risk older patients discharge successfully to home. The innovative program is successful with more than 75% of patients, meeting their preferences and also saving State funds. HCTI should be funded for FY2025 and beyond.

PERSONAL SUPPORT BUILT ON PERSONAL EXPERIENCE