

2022 -- S 2476 SUBSTITUTE A

LC004627/SUB A

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

A N A C T

RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES

Introduced By: Senators Miller, DiMario, Lawson, Valverde, and Cano

Date Introduced: March 01, 2022

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 27-18 of the General Laws entitled "Accident and Sickness Insurance
2 Policies" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following sections:

3 **27-18-89. Emergency medical services transport to alternate facilities.**

4 (a) As used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

5 (1) "Basic life support" or "BLS" means transportation by ground ambulance vehicle and
6 medically necessary supplies and services, plus the provision of BLS ambulance services. The
7 ambulance must be staffed by at least two (2) people who meet the requirements of state laws and
8 regulations where the services are being furnished. Also, at least one of the staff members must be
9 licensed, at a minimum, as an emergency medical technician by the state or local authority where
10 the services are furnished and be legally authorized to operate all lifesaving and life-sustaining
11 equipment on board the vehicle.

12 (2) "Emergency medical services" or "EMS" means the practitioners, ambulance vehicles,
13 and ambulance service entities licensed in accordance with chapter 4.1 of title 23 to provide
14 emergency medical care, transportation, and preventive care to mitigate loss of life or exacerbation
15 of illness or injury, including, but not limited to, EMS responding to the 911 system established
16 under chapter 21.1 of title 39.

17 (3) "Emergency medical services practitioner" means an individual who is licensed in
18 accordance with state laws and regulations to perform emergency medical care and preventive care
19 to mitigate loss of life or exacerbation of illness or injury, including emergency medical

1 technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians-
2 cardiac, and paramedics.

3 (4) “Mobile integrated healthcare/community paramedicine” means the provision of
4 healthcare using patient-centered, mobile resources in the out-of-hospital environment with EMS
5 agency’s licensed paramedic and advanced emergency medical technician-cardiac practitioners
6 working in collaboration with physicians, nurses, mid-level practitioners, community health teams
7 and social, behavioral and substance use disorder specialists to address the unmet needs of
8 individuals experiencing intermittent health care issues.

9 (b) This section authorizes emergency medical services in the state participating in a mobile
10 integrated healthcare/community paramedicine program to divert non-emergency basic life service
11 calls from emergency departments. Emergency medical services practitioners shall assess
12 individuals who are in need of emergency medical services and apply the correct level of care
13 thereafter, which may include transport to an alternative facility deemed appropriate by the
14 emergency medical services practitioner. An alternative facility shall include, but not be limited to:

15 (1) An individual’s primary care provider;

16 (2) A community health clinic;

17 (3) An urgent care facility;

18 (4) An emergency room diversion facility, as defined in § 23-17.26-2; and

19 (5) A community-based behavioral health facility designed to provide immediate
20 assistance to a person in crisis.

21 (c) Emergency medical services shall be permitted to transport to the following facilities
22 designated by the director of the department of health:

23 (1) Emergency room diversion facilities, as defined in § 23-17.26-2; and

24 (2) Community-based behavioral health facilities designed to provide immediate assistance
25 to a person in crisis.

26 (d) Commencing January 1, 2023, every individual or group health insurance contract, plan
27 or policy issued for delivery or renewed in this state that provides medical coverage that includes
28 coverage for emergency medical services shall provide coverage for transport to an alternative
29 location facility as identified in subsection (b) of this section and shall reimburse the EMS for such
30 services at the same rate as for a non-emergency basic life support transport to an emergency
31 department.

32 (e) If treatment at an alternative facility is deemed appropriate by the EMS practitioner, the
33 emergency medical service shall bill at the rate described in subsection (d) of this section, even if
34 an advanced life support assessment was provided.

1 (f) The office of the health insurance commissioner and/or the department of health may
2 promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary and proper to effectuate the purpose and for
3 the efficient administration and enforcement of this section.

4 **27-18-90. Coverage of EMS mental health and substance use disorder treatment.**

5 (a) As used in this section, "emergency medical services" or "EMS" means the
6 practitioners, ambulance vehicles, and ambulance service entities licensed in accordance with
7 chapter 4.1 of title 23 to provide emergency medical care, transportation, and preventive care to
8 mitigate loss of life or exacerbation of illness or injury, including, but not limited to, EMS
9 responding to the 911 system established under chapter 21.1 of title 39.

10 (b) Emergency medical services shall be permitted to allow licensed providers who treat
11 mental health disorders, including substance use disorders, to accompany EMS. Such providers
12 shall be permitted to treat EMS patients when medically necessary and appropriate. Such treatment
13 shall be permitted to occur in the community.

14 (c) Commencing January 1, 2023, every individual or group health insurance contract, plan
15 or policy issued for delivery or renewed in this state that provides medical coverage that includes
16 coverage for emergency medical services, shall provide coverage for transportation and treatment
17 described in subsection (b) of this section and shall reimburse such services at a rate not lower than
18 the same service would have been had that service been delivered in a traditional office setting.

19 (d) Treatment and coverage for mental health disorders, including substance use disorders,
20 as described in this section shall be provided in accordance with chapter 38.2 of title 27.

21 (e) The office of the health insurance commissioner and/or the department of health may
22 promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary and proper to effectuate the purpose and for
23 the efficient administration and enforcement of this section.

24 SECTION 2. Chapter 27-19 of the General Laws entitled "Nonprofit Hospital Service
25 Corporations" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following sections:

26 **27-19-81. Emergency medical services transport to alternate facilities.**

27 (a) As used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meaning:

28 (1) "Basic life support" or "BLS" means transportation by ground ambulance vehicle and
29 medically necessary supplies and services, plus the provision of BLS ambulance services. The
30 ambulance must be staffed by at least two (2) people who meet the requirements of state laws and
31 regulations where the services are being furnished. Also, at least one of the staff members must be
32 licensed, at a minimum, as an emergency medical technician by the state or local authority where
33 the services are furnished and be legally authorized to operate all lifesaving and life-sustaining
34 equipment on board the vehicle.

1 (2) "Emergency medical services" or "EMS" means the practitioners, ambulance vehicles,
2 and ambulance service entities licensed in accordance with chapter 4.1 of title 23 to provide
3 emergency medical care, transportation, and preventive care to mitigate loss of life or exacerbation
4 of illness or injury, including, but not limited to, EMS responding to the 911 system established
5 under chapter 21.1 of title 39.

6 (3) "Emergency medical services practitioner" means an individual who is licensed in
7 accordance with state laws and regulations to perform emergency medical care and preventive care
8 to mitigate loss of life or exacerbation of illness or injury, including emergency medical
9 technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians-
10 cardiac, and paramedics.

11 (4) "Mobile integrated healthcare/community paramedicine" means the provision of
12 healthcare using patient-centered, mobile resources in the out-of-hospital environment with EMS
13 agency's licensed paramedic and advanced emergency medical technician-cardiac practitioners
14 working in collaboration with physicians, nurses, mid-level practitioners, community health teams
15 and social, behavioral and substance use disorder specialists to address the unmet needs of
16 individuals experiencing intermittent health care issues.

17 (b) This section authorizes emergency medical services in the state participating in a mobile
18 integrated healthcare/community paramedicine program to divert non-emergency basic life service
19 calls from emergency departments. Emergency medical services practitioners shall assess
20 individuals who are in need of emergency medical services and apply the correct level of care
21 thereafter, which may include transport to an alternative facility deemed appropriate by the
22 emergency medical services practitioner. An alternative facility shall include, but not be limited to:

- 23 (1) An individual's primary care provider;
- 24 (2) A community health clinic;
- 25 (3) An urgent care facility;
- 26 (4) An emergency room diversion facility, as defined in § 23-17.26-2; and
- 27 (5) A community-based behavioral health facility designed to provide immediate
28 assistance to a person in crisis.

29 (c) Emergency medical services shall be permitted to transport to the following facilities
30 designated by the director of RIDOH:

- 31 (i) emergency room diversion facilities, as defined in § 23-17.26-2; and
- 32 (ii) community-based behavioral health facilities designed to provide immediate assistance
33 to a person in crisis.

34 (d) Commencing January 1, 2023, every individual or group health insurance contract, plan

1 or policy issued for delivery or renewed in this state that provides medical coverage that includes
2 coverage for emergency medical services shall provide coverage for transport to an alternative
3 location facility as identified in subsection (b) of this section and shall reimburse the EMS for such
4 services at the same rate as for a non-emergency basic life support transport to an emergency
5 department.

6 (e) If treatment at an alternative facility is deemed appropriate by the EMS practitioner, the
7 emergency medical service shall bill at the rate described in subsection (d) of this section even if
8 an advanced life support assessment was provided.

9 (f) The office of the health insurance commissioner and/or Rhode Island department of
10 health may promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary and proper to effectuate the
11 purpose and for the efficient administration and enforcement of this section.

12 **27-19-82. Coverage of EMS mental health and substance use disorder treatment.**

13 (a) As used in this section, "emergency medical services" or "EMS" means the
14 practitioners, ambulance vehicles, and ambulance service entities licensed in accordance with
15 chapter 4.1 of title 23 to provide emergency medical care, transportation, and preventive care to
16 mitigate loss of life or exacerbation of illness or injury, including, but not limited to, EMS
17 responding to the 911 system established under chapter 21.1 of title 39.

18 (b) Emergency medical services shall be permitted to allow licensed providers who treat
19 mental health disorders, including substance use disorders, to accompany EMS. Such providers
20 shall be permitted to treat EMS patients when medically necessary and appropriate. Such treatment
21 shall be permitted to occur in the community.

22 (c) Commencing January 1, 2023, every individual or group health insurance contract, plan
23 or policy issued for delivery or renewed in this state that provides medical coverage that includes
24 coverage for emergency medical services, shall provide coverage for transportation and treatment
25 described in subsection (b) of this section and shall reimburse such services at a rate not lower than
26 the same service would have been had that service been delivered in a traditional office setting.

27 (d) Treatment and coverage for mental health disorders, including substance use disorders,
28 as described in this section shall be provided in accordance with chapter 38.2 of title 27.

29 (e) The office of the health insurance commissioner and/or Rhode Island department of
30 health may promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary and proper to effectuate the
31 purpose and for the efficient administration and enforcement of this section.

32 SECTION 3. Chapter 27-20 of the General Laws entitled "Nonprofit Medical Service
33 Corporations" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following sections:

34 **27-20-77. Emergency medical services transport to alternate facilities.**

1 (a) As used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meaning:

2 (1) "Basic life support" or "BLS" means transportation by ground ambulance vehicle and
3 medically necessary supplies and services, plus the provision of BLS ambulance services. The
4 ambulance must be staffed by at least two (2) people who meet the requirements of state laws and
5 regulations where the services are being furnished. Also, at least one of the staff members must be
6 licensed, at a minimum, as an emergency medical technician by the state or local authority where
7 the services are furnished and be legally authorized to operate all lifesaving and life-sustaining
8 equipment on board the vehicle.

9 (2) "Emergency medical services" or "EMS" means the practitioners, ambulance vehicles,
10 and ambulance service entities licensed in accordance with chapter 4.1 of title 23 to provide
11 emergency medical care, transportation, and preventive care to mitigate loss of life or exacerbation
12 of illness or injury including, but not limited to, EMS responding to the 911 system established
13 under chapter 21.1 of title 39.

14 (3) "Emergency medical services practitioner" means an individual who is licensed in
15 accordance with state laws and regulations to perform emergency medical care and preventive care
16 to mitigate loss of life or exacerbation of illness or injury, including emergency medical
17 technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians-
18 cardiac, and paramedics.

19 (4) "Mobile integrated healthcare/community paramedicine" means the provision of
20 healthcare using patient-centered, mobile resources in the out-of-hospital environment with EMS
21 agency's licensed paramedic and advanced emergency medical technician-cardiac practitioners
22 working in collaboration with physicians, nurses, mid-level practitioners, community health teams
23 and social, behavioral and substance use disorder specialists to address the unmet needs of
24 individuals experiencing intermittent health care issues.

25 (b) This section authorizes emergency medical services in the state participating in a mobile
26 integrated healthcare/community paramedicine program to divert non-emergency basic life service
27 calls from emergency departments. Emergency medical services practitioners shall assess
28 individuals who are in need of emergency medical services and apply the correct level of care
29 thereafter, which may include transport to an alternative facility deemed appropriate by the
30 emergency medical services practitioner. An alternative facility shall include, but not be limited to:

31 (1) An individual's primary care provider;

32 (2) A community health clinic;

33 (3) An urgent care facility;

34 (4) An emergency room diversion facility, as defined in § 23-17.26-2; and

1 (5) A community-based behavioral health facility designed to provide immediate
2 assistance to a person in crisis.

3 (c) Emergency medical services shall be permitted to transport to the following facilities
4 designated by the director of RIDOH:

5 (i) emergency room diversion facilities, as defined in § 23-17.26-2; and

6 (ii) community-based behavioral health facilities designed to provide immediate assistance
7 to a person in crisis.

8 (d) Commencing January 1, 2023, every individual or group health insurance contract, plan
9 or policy issued for delivery or renewed in this state that provides medical coverage that includes
10 coverage for emergency medical services shall provide coverage for transport to an alternative
11 location facility as identified in subsection (b) of this section and shall reimburse the EMS for such
12 services at the same rate as for a non-emergency basic life support transport to an emergency
13 department.

14 (e) If treatment at an alternative facility is deemed appropriate by the EMS practitioner, the
15 emergency medical service shall bill at the rate described in subsection (c) of this section, even if
16 an advanced life support assessment was provided.

17 (f) The office of the health insurance commissioner and/or Rhode Island department of
18 health may promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary and proper to effectuate the
19 purpose and for the efficient administration and enforcement of this section.

20 **27-20-78. Coverage of EMS mental health and substance use disorder treatment.**

21 (a) As used in this section, "emergency medical services" or "EMS" means the
22 practitioners, ambulance vehicles, and ambulance service entities licensed in accordance with
23 chapter 4.1 of title 23 to provide emergency medical care, transportation, and preventive care to
24 mitigate loss of life or exacerbation of illness or injury, including, but not limited to, EMS
25 responding to the 911 system established under chapter 21.1 of title 39.

26 (b) Emergency medical services shall be permitted to allow licensed providers who treat
27 mental health disorders, including substance use disorders, to accompany EMS. Such providers
28 shall be permitted to treat EMS patients when medically necessary and appropriate. Such treatment
29 shall be permitted to occur in the community.

30 (c) Commencing January 1, 2023, every individual or group health insurance contract, plan
31 or policy issued for delivery or renewed in this state that provides medical coverage that includes
32 coverage for emergency medical services, shall provide coverage for transportation and treatment
33 described in subsection (b) of this section and shall reimburse such services at a rate not lower than
34 the same service would have been had that service been delivered in a traditional office setting.

1 (d) Treatment and coverage for mental health disorders, including substance use disorders,
2 as described in this section shall be provided in accordance with chapter 38.2 of title 27.

3 (e) The office of the health insurance commissioner and/or Rhode Island department of
4 health may promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary and proper to effectuate the
5 purpose and for the efficient administration and enforcement of this section.

6 SECTION 4. Chapter 27-41 of the General Laws entitled "Health Maintenance
7 Organizations" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following sections:

8 **27-41-94. Emergency medical services transport to alternate facilities.**

9 (a) As used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meaning:

10 (1) "Basic life support" or "BLS" means transportation by ground ambulance vehicle and
11 medically necessary supplies and services, plus the provision of BLS ambulance services. The
12 ambulance must be staffed by at least two (2) people who meet the requirements of state laws and
13 regulations where the services are being furnished. Also, at least one of the staff members must be
14 licensed, at a minimum, as an emergency medical technician by the state or local authority where
15 the services are furnished and be legally authorized to operate all lifesaving and life-sustaining
16 equipment on board the vehicle.

17 (2) "Emergency medical services" or "EMS" means the practitioners, ambulance vehicles,
18 and ambulance service entities licensed in accordance with chapter 4.1 of title 23 to provide
19 emergency medical care, transportation, and preventive care to mitigate loss of life or exacerbation
20 of illness or injury, including, but not limited to, EMS responding to the 911 system established
21 under chapter 21.1 of title 39.

22 (3) "Emergency medical services practitioner" means an individual who is licensed in
23 accordance with state laws and regulations to perform emergency medical care and preventive care
24 to mitigate loss of life or exacerbation of illness or injury, including emergency medical
25 technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians-
26 cardiac, and paramedics.

27 (4) "Mobile integrated healthcare/community paramedicine" means the provision of
28 healthcare using patient-centered, mobile resources in the out-of-hospital environment with EMS
29 agency's licensed paramedic and advanced emergency medical technician-cardiac practitioners
30 working in collaboration with physicians, nurses, mid-level practitioners, community health teams
31 and social, behavioral and substance use disorder specialists to address the unmet needs of
32 individuals experiencing intermittent health care issues.

33 (b) This section authorizes emergency medical services in the state participating in a mobile
34 integrated healthcare/community paramedicine program to divert non-emergency basic life service

1 calls from emergency departments. Emergency medical services practitioners shall assess
2 individuals who are in need of emergency medical services and apply the correct level of care
3 thereafter, which may include transport to an alternative facility deemed appropriate by the
4 emergency medical services practitioner. An alternative facility shall include, but not be limited to:

- 5 (1) An individual's primary care provider;
- 6 (2) A community health clinic;
- 7 (3) An urgent care facility;
- 8 (4) An emergency room diversion facility, as defined in § 23-17.26-2; and
- 9 (5) A community-based behavioral health facility designed to provide immediate
10 assistance to a person in crisis.

11 (c) Emergency medical services shall be permitted to transport to the following facilities
12 designated by the director of RIDOH:

- 13 (i) Emergency room diversion facilities, as defined in § 23-17.26-2; and
- 14 (ii) Community-based behavioral health facilities designed to provide immediate
15 assistance to a person in crisis.

16 (d) Commencing January 1, 2023, every individual or group health insurance contract, plan
17 or policy issued for delivery or renewed in this state that provides medical coverage that includes
18 coverage for emergency medical services shall provide coverage for transport to an alternative
19 location facility as identified in subsection (b) of this section and shall reimburse the EMS for such
20 services at the same rate as for a non-emergency basic life support transport to an emergency
21 department.

22 (e) If treatment at an alternative facility is deemed appropriate by the EMS practitioner, the
23 emergency medical service shall bill at the rate as described in subsection (d) of this section, even
24 if an advanced life support assessment was provided.

25 (f) The office of the health insurance commissioner and/or Rhode Island department of
26 health may promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary and proper to effectuate the
27 purpose and for the efficient administration and enforcement of this section.

28 **27-41-95. Coverage of EMS mental health and substance use disorder treatment.**

29 (a) As used in this section, "emergency medical services" or "EMS" means the
30 practitioners, ambulance vehicles, and ambulance service entities licensed in accordance with
31 chapter 4.1 of title 23 to provide emergency medical care, transportation, and preventive care to
32 mitigate loss of life or exacerbation of illness or injury, including, but not limited to, EMS
33 responding to the 911 system established under chapter 21.1 of title 39.

34 (b) Emergency medical services shall be permitted to allow licensed providers who treat

1 mental health disorders, including substance use disorders, to accompany EMS. Such providers
2 shall be permitted to treat EMS patients when medically necessary and appropriate. Such treatment
3 shall be permitted to occur in the community.

4 (c) Commencing January 1, 2023, every individual or group health insurance contract, plan
5 or policy issued for delivery or renewed in this state that provides medical coverage that includes
6 coverage for emergency medical services, shall provide coverage for transportation and treatment
7 described in subsection (b) of this section and shall reimburse such services at a rate not lower than
8 the same service would have been had that service been delivered in a traditional office setting.

9 (d) Treatment and coverage for mental health disorders, including substance use disorders,
10 as described in this section shall be provided in accordance with chapter 38.2 of title 27.

11 (e) The office of the health insurance commissioner and/or Rhode Island department of
12 health may promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary and proper to effectuate the
13 purpose and for the efficient administration and enforcement of this section.

14 SECTION 5. Chapter 42-7.2 of the General Laws entitled "Office of Health and Human
15 Services" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following sections:

16 **42-7.2-21. Emergency medical services transport to alternate facilities.**

17 (a) As used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meaning:

18 (1) "Basic life support" or "BLS" means transportation by ground ambulance vehicle and
19 medically necessary supplies and services, plus the provision of BLS ambulance services. The
20 ambulance must be staffed by at least two (2) people who meet the requirements of state laws and
21 regulations where the services are being furnished. Also, at least one of the staff members must be
22 licensed, at a minimum, as an emergency medical technician by the state or local authority where
23 the services are furnished and be legally authorized to operate all lifesaving and life-sustaining
24 equipment on board the vehicle.

25 (2) "Emergency medical services" or "EMS" means the practitioners, ambulance vehicles,
26 and ambulance service entities licensed in accordance with chapter 4.1 of title 23 to provide
27 emergency medical care, transportation, and preventive care to mitigate loss of life or exacerbation
28 of illness or injury, including, but not limited to, EMS responding to the 911 system established
29 under chapter 21.1 of title 39.

30 (3) "Emergency medical services practitioner" means an individual who is licensed in
31 accordance with state laws and regulations to perform emergency medical care and preventive care
32 to mitigate loss of life or exacerbation of illness or injury, including emergency medical
33 technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians-
34 cardiac, and paramedics.

1 (4) “Mobile integrated healthcare/community paramedicine” means the provision of
2 healthcare using patient-centered, mobile resources in the out-of-hospital environment with EMS
3 agency’s licensed paramedic and advanced emergency medical technician-cardiac practitioners
4 working in collaboration with physicians, nurses, mid-level practitioners, community health teams
5 and social, behavioral and substance use disorder specialists to address the unmet needs of
6 individuals experiencing intermittent health care issues.

7 (b) This section authorizes emergency medical services in the state participating in a mobile
8 integrated healthcare/community paramedicine program to divert non-emergency basic life service
9 calls from emergency departments. Emergency medical services practitioners shall assess
10 individuals who are in need of emergency medical services and apply the correct level of care
11 thereafter, which may include transport to an alternative facility deemed appropriate by the
12 emergency medical services practitioner. An alternative facility shall include, but not be limited to:

13 (1) An individual’s primary care provider;

14 (2) A community health clinic;

15 (3) An urgent care facility;

16 (4) An emergency room diversion facility, as defined in § 23-17.26-2; and

17 (5) A community-based behavioral health facility designed to provide immediate
18 assistance to a person in crisis.

19 (c) Emergency medical services shall be permitted to transport to the following facilities
20 designated by the director of the department of health:

21 (1) Emergency room diversion facilities, as defined in § 23-17.26-2; and

22 (2) Community-based behavioral health facilities designed to provide immediate assistance
23 to a person in crisis.

24 (d) Rhode Island Medicaid and its contracted managed care entities shall provide coverage
25 for transport to an alternative facility as identified in subsection (b) of this section and shall
26 reimburse the EMS for such services at the same rate as for a non-emergency basic life support
27 transport to an emergency department.

28 (e) If treatment at an alternative facility is deemed appropriate by the EMS practitioner, the
29 emergency medical service shall bill at the rate described in subsection (d) of this section even if
30 an advanced life support assessment was provided.

31 (f) The executive office of health and human services and/or the department of health may
32 promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary and proper to effectuate the purpose and for
33 the efficient administration and enforcement of this chapter.

34 **42-7.2-22. Coverage of EMS mental health and substance use disorder treatment.**

1 (a) As used in this section, "emergency medical services" or "EMS" means the
2 practitioners, ambulance vehicles, and ambulance service entities licensed in accordance with
3 chapter 4.1 of title 23 to provide emergency medical care, transportation, and preventive care to
4 mitigate loss of life or exacerbation of illness or injury, including, but not limited to, EMS
5 responding to the 911 system established under chapter 21.1 of title 39.

6 (b) Emergency medical services shall be permitted to allow licensed providers who treat
7 mental health disorders, including substance use disorders, to accompany EMS. Such providers
8 shall be permitted to treat EMS patients when medically necessary and appropriate. Such treatment
9 shall be permitted to occur in the community.

10 (c) Rhode Island Medicaid and its contracted managed care entities shall provide coverage
11 for transportation and treatment described in subsection (b) of this section and shall reimburse such
12 services at a rate not lower than the same service would have been had that service been delivered
13 in a traditional office setting.

14 (d) The executive office of health and human services and/or the department of health may
15 promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary and proper to effectuate the purpose and for
16 the efficient administration and enforcement of this chapter.

17 SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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LC004627/SUB A
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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES

1 This act would require health insurers, nonprofit hospital service corporations, nonprofit
2 medical service corporations, health maintenance organizations and Rhode Island Medicaid, to
3 issue or renew policies that provide coverage for emergency medical services transport to alternate
4 facilities and coverage of emergency medical services, mental health and substance use disorder
5 treatment, on or after January 1, 2023.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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LC004627/SUB A
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