

1 ARTICLE 14

2 RELATING TO MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

3 SECTION 1. Section 40-8-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 40-8 entitled "Medical  
4 Assistance" is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 40-8-4. Direct vendor payment plan. Medicaid vendor payment and beneficiary  
6 copayment.

7 (a) The ~~department~~ executive office of health and human services ("executive office")  
8 shall furnish medical care benefits to eligible beneficiaries through ~~a direct vendor payment plan~~  
9 and/or other methodologies and plans authorized in this chapter. ~~The plan shall include, but need~~  
10 ~~not be limited to, any or all of the following benefits, which benefits shall be contracted for by the~~  
11 ~~director.~~ Such plans and methodologies shall cover the services and supports approved as eligible  
12 for federal financial participation identified in the Medicaid state plan and any active waivers.:

13 ~~(1) Inpatient hospital services, other than services in a hospital, institution, or facility for~~  
14 ~~tuberculosis or mental diseases;~~

15 ~~(2) Nursing services for such period of time as the director shall authorize;~~

16 ~~(3) Visiting nurse service;~~

17 ~~(4) Drugs for consumption either by inpatients or by other persons for whom they are~~  
18 ~~prescribed by a licensed physician;~~

19 ~~(5) Dental services; and~~

20 ~~(6) Hospice care up to a maximum of two hundred and ten (210) days as a lifetime benefit.~~

21 ~~(b) For purposes of this chapter, the payment of federal Medicare premiums or other health~~  
22 ~~insurance premiums by the department on behalf of eligible beneficiaries in accordance with the~~  
23 ~~provisions of Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq., shall be deemed~~  
24 ~~to be a direct vendor payment.~~

25 ~~(c)~~ (b) With respect to medical care benefits furnished ~~to eligible individuals~~ under this  
26 chapter, ~~or Title XIX, or Title XXI~~ of the federal Social Security Act, the ~~department~~ executive  
27 office is authorized and directed to impose:

28 (i) Nominal co-payments or similar charges upon ~~eligible individuals for non-emergency~~  
29 ~~services provided in a hospital emergency room; and~~ adults over the age of nineteen (19) who are  
30 not living with a disability or receiving care and treatment in a facility or eligible for Medicaid  
31 pursuant to §-40-8.5-1, or pregnant women, the total of which is not to exceed five (5) percent of  
32 annual countable income in a year eligibility period, as follows:

33 (1) Co-payments in the amount of three dollars (\$3.00) for each inpatient hospitalization;

34 and

1           ~~(ii)~~ (2) Co-payments for prescription drugs in the amount of one dollar (\$1.00) for ~~generic~~  
2 selected drug prescriptions for the treatment of diabetes, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol  
3 and three dollars and sixty-five cents (\$3.~~00~~65) for ~~brand-name~~ all other drug prescriptions in  
4 accordance with the provisions of 42 U.S.C. § 1396, et seq. Family planning prescription drugs are  
5 exempt from co-payment requirements.

6           ~~(d)~~ (c) The ~~department~~ executive office is authorized and directed to promulgate rules and  
7 regulations to impose such co-payments or charges and to provide that, with respect to subdivisions  
8 ~~(ii)~~ (i)-above, those regulations shall be effective upon filing.

9           ~~(e)~~ (d) No state agency shall pay a vendor for medical benefits provided to a ~~recipient of~~  
10 ~~assistance~~ beneficiary under this chapter until and unless the vendor has submitted a claim for  
11 payment to a commercial insurance plan, Medicare, and/or a Medicaid managed care plan, if  
12 applicable for that ~~recipient~~ beneficiary, in that order. This includes payments for skilled nursing  
13 and therapy services specifically outlined in Chapter 7, 8 and 15 of the Medicare Benefit Policy  
14 Manual.

15           (e) Medicaid covered services will not be withheld due to the beneficiary's inability to pay  
16 a co-payment.

17           SECTION 2. Sections 40-8-13.4 and 40-8-19 of the General Laws in Chapter 40-8 entitled  
18 "Medical Assistance" are hereby amended to read as follows:

19           40-8-13.4. Rate methodology for payment for in state and out of state hospital  
20 services.

21           (a) The executive office of health and human services ("executive office") shall implement  
22 a new methodology for payment for in-state and out-of-state hospital services in order to ensure  
23 access to, and the provision of, high-quality and cost-effective hospital care to its eligible recipients.

24           (b) In order to improve efficiency and cost effectiveness, the executive office shall:

25           (1)(i) With respect to inpatient services for persons in fee-for-service Medicaid, which is  
26 non-managed care, implement a new payment methodology for inpatient services utilizing the  
27 Diagnosis Related Groups (DRG) method of payment, which is, a patient-classification method  
28 that provides a means of relating payment to the hospitals to the type of patients cared for by the  
29 hospitals. It is understood that a payment method based on DRG may include cost outlier payments  
30 and other specific exceptions. The executive office will review the DRG-payment method and the  
31 DRG base price annually, making adjustments as appropriate in consideration of such elements as  
32 trends in hospital input costs; patterns in hospital coding; beneficiary access to care; and the Centers  
33 for Medicare and Medicaid Services national CMS Prospective Payment System (IPPS) Hospital  
34 Input Price index. For the twelve-month (12) period beginning July 1, 2015, the DRG base rate for

1 Medicaid fee-for-service inpatient hospital services shall not exceed ninety-seven and one-half  
2 percent (97.5%) of the payment rates in effect as of July 1, 2014. Beginning July 1, 2019, the DRG  
3 base rate for Medicaid fee-for-service inpatient hospital services shall be 107.2% of the payment  
4 rates in effect as of July 1, 2018. For the twelve (12) month period beginning July 1, 2020, there  
5 shall be no increase in the DRG base rate for Medicaid fee-for-service inpatient hospital services.  
6 Increases in the Medicaid fee-for-service DRG hospital payments for the twelve-month (12) period  
7 beginning ~~July 1, 2020~~ July 1, 2021 shall be based on the payment rates in effect as of July 1 of the  
8 preceding fiscal year and shall be inflated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
9 national Prospective Payment System (IPPS) Hospital Input Price Index.

10 (ii) With respect to inpatient services, (A) It is required as of January 1, 2011, until  
11 December 31, 2011, that the Medicaid managed care payment rates between each hospital and  
12 health plan shall not exceed ninety and one tenth percent (90.1%) of the rate in effect as of June 30,  
13 2010. Increases in inpatient hospital payments for each annual twelve-month (12) period beginning  
14 January 1, 2012, may not exceed the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services national CMS  
15 Prospective Payment System (IPPS) Hospital Input Price index for the applicable period; (B)  
16 Provided, however, for the twenty-four-month (24) period beginning July 1, 2013, the Medicaid  
17 managed care payment rates between each hospital and health plan shall not exceed the payment  
18 rates in effect as of January 1, 2013, and for the twelve-month (12) period beginning July 1, 2015,  
19 the Medicaid managed care payment inpatient rates between each hospital and health plan shall not  
20 exceed ninety-seven and one-half percent (97.5%) of the payment rates in effect as of January 1,  
21 2013; (C) Increases in inpatient hospital payments for each annual twelve-month (12) period  
22 beginning July 1, 2017, shall be the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services national CMS  
23 Prospective Payment System (IPPS) Hospital Input Price Index, less Productivity Adjustment, for  
24 the applicable period and shall be paid to each hospital retroactively to July 1; (D) Beginning July  
25 1, 2019, the Medicaid managed care payment inpatient rates between each hospital and health plan  
26 shall be 107.2% of the payment rates in effect as of January 1, 2019 and shall be paid to each  
27 hospital retroactively to July 1; (E) For the twelve (12) month period beginning July 1, 2020, the  
28 Medicaid managed care payment rates between each hospital and health plan shall not exceed the  
29 payment rates in effect as of January 1, 2020. (F) Increases in inpatient hospital payments for each  
30 annual twelve-month (12) period beginning ~~July 1, 2020~~ July 1, 2021, shall be based on the payment  
31 rates in effect as of January 1 of the preceding fiscal year, and shall be the Centers for Medicare  
32 and Medicaid Services national CMS Prospective Payment System (IPPS) Hospital Input Price  
33 Index, less Productivity Adjustment, for the applicable period and shall be paid to each hospital  
34 retroactively to July 1. The executive office will develop an audit methodology and process to

1 assure that savings associated with the payment reductions will accrue directly to the Rhode Island  
2 Medicaid program through reduced managed care plan payments and shall not be retained by the  
3 managed care plans; (FG) All hospitals licensed in Rhode Island shall accept such payment rates  
4 as payment in full; and (GH) For all such hospitals, compliance with the provisions of this section  
5 shall be a condition of participation in the Rhode Island Medicaid program.

6 (2) With respect to outpatient services and notwithstanding any provisions of the law to the  
7 contrary, for persons enrolled in fee-for-service Medicaid, the executive office will reimburse  
8 hospitals for outpatient services using a rate methodology determined by the executive office and  
9 in accordance with federal regulations. Fee-for-service outpatient rates shall align with Medicare  
10 payments for similar services. Notwithstanding the above, there shall be no increase in the  
11 Medicaid fee-for-service outpatient rates effective on July 1, 2013, July 1, 2014, or July 1, 2015.  
12 For the twelve-month (12) period beginning July 1, 2015, Medicaid fee-for-service outpatient rates  
13 shall not exceed ninety-seven and one-half percent (97.5%) of the rates in effect as of July 1, 2014.  
14 Increases in the outpatient hospital payments for the twelve-month (12) period beginning July 1,  
15 2016, may not exceed the CMS national Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) Hospital  
16 Input Price Index. Beginning July 1, 2019, the Medicaid fee-for-service outpatient rates shall be  
17 107.2% of the payment rates in effect as of July 1, 2018. For the twelve-month (12) period  
18 beginning July 1, 2020, Medicaid fee-for-service outpatient rates shall not exceed the rates in effect  
19 as of July 1, 2019. Increases in the outpatient hospital payments for the twelve-month (12) period  
20 beginning ~~July 1, 2020~~ July 1, 2021 shall be based on the payment rates in effect as of July 1 of  
21 the preceding fiscal year, and shall be the CMS national Outpatient Prospective Payment System  
22 (OPPS) Hospital Input Price Index. With respect to the outpatient rate, (i) It is required as of January  
23 1, 2011, until December 31, 2011, that the Medicaid managed-care payment rates between each  
24 hospital and health plan shall not exceed one hundred percent (100%) of the rate in effect as of June  
25 30, 2010; (ii) Increases in hospital outpatient payments for each annual twelve-month (12) period  
26 beginning January 1, 2012, until July 1, 2017, may not exceed the Centers for Medicare and  
27 Medicaid Services national CMS Outpatient Prospective Payment System OPPS hospital price  
28 index for the applicable period; (iii) Provided, however, for the twenty-four-month (24) period  
29 beginning July 1, 2013, the Medicaid managed care outpatient payment rates between each hospital  
30 and health plan shall not exceed the payment rates in effect as of January 1, 2013, and for the  
31 twelve-month (12) period beginning July 1, 2015, the Medicaid managed care outpatient payment  
32 rates between each hospital and health plan shall not exceed ninety-seven and one-half percent  
33 (97.5%) of the payment rates in effect as of January 1, 2013; (iv) Increases in outpatient hospital  
34 payments for each annual twelve-month (12) period beginning July 1, 2017, shall be the Centers

1 for Medicare and Medicaid Services national CMS OPPS Hospital Input Price Index, less  
2 Productivity Adjustment, for the applicable period and shall be paid to each hospital retroactively  
3 to July 1. Beginning July 1, 2019, the Medicaid managed care outpatient payment rates between  
4 each hospital and health plan shall be one hundred seven and two-tenths percent (107.2%) of the  
5 payment rates in effect as of January 1, 2019 and shall be paid to each hospital retroactively to July  
6 1. For the twelve (12) month period beginning July 1, 2020, the Medicaid managed-care outpatient  
7 payment rates between each hospital and health plan shall not exceed the payment rates in effect  
8 as of January 1, 2020. (vi) Increases in outpatient hospital payments for each annual twelve-month  
9 (12) period beginning ~~July 1, 2020~~ July 1, 2021, shall be based on the payment rates in effect as of  
10 January 1 of the preceding fiscal year, and shall be the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
11 national CMS OPPS Hospital Input Price Index, less Productivity Adjustment, for the applicable  
12 period and shall be paid to each hospital retroactively to July 1.

13 (3) "Hospital", as used in this section, shall mean the actual facilities and buildings in  
14 existence in Rhode Island, licensed pursuant to § 23-17-1 et seq. on June 30, 2010, and thereafter  
15 any premises included on that license, regardless of changes in licensure status pursuant to chapter  
16 17.14 of title 23 (hospital conversions) and § 23-17-6(b) (change in effective control), that provides  
17 short-term, acute inpatient and/or outpatient care to persons who require definitive diagnosis and  
18 treatment for injury, illness, disabilities, or pregnancy. Notwithstanding the preceding language,  
19 the Medicaid managed care payment rates for a court-approved purchaser that acquires a hospital  
20 through receivership, special mastership or other similar state insolvency proceedings (which court-  
21 approved purchaser is issued a hospital license after January 1, 2013) shall be based upon the new  
22 rates between the court-approved purchaser and the health plan, and such rates shall be effective as  
23 of the date that the court-approved purchaser and the health plan execute the initial agreement  
24 containing the new rates. The rate-setting methodology for inpatient-hospital payments and  
25 outpatient-hospital payments set forth in subdivisions (b)(1)(ii)(C) and (b)(2), respectively, shall  
26 thereafter apply to increases for each annual twelve-month (12) period as of July 1 following the  
27 completion of the first full year of the court-approved purchaser's initial Medicaid managed care  
28 contract.

29 (c) It is intended that payment utilizing the DRG method shall reward hospitals for  
30 providing the most efficient care, and provide the executive office the opportunity to conduct value-  
31 based purchasing of inpatient care.

32 (d) The secretary of the executive office is hereby authorized to promulgate such rules and  
33 regulations consistent with this chapter, and to establish fiscal procedures he or she deems  
34 necessary, for the proper implementation and administration of this chapter in order to provide

1 payment to hospitals using the DRG-payment methodology. Furthermore, amendment of the Rhode  
2 Island state plan for Medicaid, pursuant to Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act, is hereby  
3 authorized to provide for payment to hospitals for services provided to eligible recipients in  
4 accordance with this chapter.

5 (e) The executive office shall comply with all public notice requirements necessary to  
6 implement these rate changes.

7 (f) As a condition of participation in the DRG methodology for payment of hospital  
8 services, every hospital shall submit year-end settlement reports to the executive office within one  
9 year from the close of a hospital's fiscal year. Should a participating hospital fail to timely submit  
10 a year-end settlement report as required by this section, the executive office shall withhold  
11 financial-cycle payments due by any state agency with respect to this hospital by not more than ten  
12 percent (10%) until said report is submitted. For hospital fiscal year 2010 and all subsequent fiscal  
13 years, hospitals will not be required to submit year-end settlement reports on payments for  
14 outpatient services. For hospital fiscal year 2011 and all subsequent fiscal years, hospitals will not  
15 be required to submit year-end settlement reports on claims for hospital inpatient services. Further,  
16 for hospital fiscal year 2010, hospital inpatient claims subject to settlement shall include only those  
17 claims received between October 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010.

18 (g) The provisions of this section shall be effective upon implementation of the new  
19 payment methodology set forth in this section and § 40-8-13.3, which shall in any event be no later  
20 than March 30, 2010, at which time the provisions of §§ 40-8-13.2, 27-19-14, 27-19-15, and 27-  
21 19-16 shall be repealed in their entirety.

22 SECTION 3. Section 40-8-19 of the General Laws in Chapter 40-8 entitled "Medical  
23 Assistance" is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 **40-8-19. Rates of payment to nursing facilities.**

25 (a) Rate reform.

26 (1) The rates to be paid by the state to nursing facilities licensed pursuant to chapter 17 of  
27 title 23, and certified to participate in Title XIX of the Social Security Act for services rendered to  
28 Medicaid-eligible residents, shall be reasonable and adequate to meet the costs that must be  
29 incurred by efficiently and economically operated facilities in accordance with 42 U.S.C. §  
30 1396a(a)(13). The executive office of health and human services ("executive office") shall  
31 promulgate or modify the principles of reimbursement for nursing facilities in effect as of July 1,  
32 2011, to be consistent with the provisions of this section and Title XIX, 42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq.,  
33 of the Social Security Act.

1 (2) The executive office shall review the current methodology for providing Medicaid  
2 payments to nursing facilities, including other long-term-care services providers, and is authorized  
3 to modify the principles of reimbursement to replace the current cost-based methodology rates with  
4 rates based on a price-based methodology to be paid to all facilities with recognition of the acuity  
5 of patients and the relative Medicaid occupancy, and to include the following elements to be  
6 developed by the executive office:

- 7 (i) A direct-care rate adjusted for resident acuity;
- 8 (ii) An indirect-care rate comprised of a base per diem for all facilities;
- 9 (iii) A rerearray of costs for all facilities every three (3) years beginning October, 2015, that  
10 may or may not result in automatic per diem revisions;
- 11 (iv) Application of a fair-rental value system;
- 12 (v) Application of a pass-through system; and
- 13 (vi) Adjustment of rates by the change in a recognized national nursing home inflation

14 index to be applied on October 1 of each year, beginning October 1, 2012. This adjustment will not  
15 occur on October 1, 2013, October 1, 2014, or October 1, 2015, but will occur on April 1, 2015.  
16 The adjustment of rates will also not occur on October 1, 2017, October 1, 2018, ~~and~~ October 1,  
17 2019, and October 1, 2020. Effective July 1, 2018, rates paid to nursing facilities from the rates  
18 approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and in effect on October 1, 2017,  
19 both fee-for-service and managed care, will be increased by one and one-half percent (1.5%) and  
20 further increased by one percent (1%) on October 1, 2018, and further increased by one percent  
21 (1%) on October 1, 2019. Effective October 1, 2020, Medicaid payment rates for nursing facilities  
22 established pursuant to this section shall be increased by one percent (1%). Consistent with the  
23 other provisions of this chapter, nothing in this provision shall require the executive office to restore  
24 the rates to those in effect on October 1, 2019, at the end of this twelve-month (12) period.  
25 Additionally, the full value of the rate increase effective October 1, 2020 will be directed to the  
26 Direct Nursing Care component of the rate and nursing facilities must use this additional funding  
27 to increase wages paid to direct care staff. The inflation index shall be applied without regard for  
28 the transition factors in subsections (b)(1) and (b)(2). For purposes of October 1, 2016, adjustment  
29 only, any rate increase that results from application of the inflation index to subsections (a)(2)(i)  
30 and (a)(2)(ii) shall be dedicated to increase compensation for direct-care workers in the following  
31 manner: Not less than 85% of this aggregate amount shall be expended to fund an increase in wages,  
32 benefits, or related employer costs of direct-care staff of nursing homes. For purposes of this  
33 section, direct-care staff shall include registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical nurses (LPNs),  
34 certified nursing assistants (CNAs), certified medical technicians, housekeeping staff, laundry staff,

1 dietary staff, or other similar employees providing direct-care services; provided, however, that this  
2 definition of direct-care staff shall not include: (i) RNs and LPNs who are classified as "exempt  
3 employees" under the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act (29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq.); or (ii) CNAs,  
4 certified medical technicians, RNs, or LPNs who are contracted, or subcontracted, through a third-  
5 party vendor or staffing agency. By July 31, 2017, nursing facilities shall submit to the secretary,  
6 or designee, a certification that they have complied with the provisions of this subsection (a)(2)(vi)  
7 with respect to the inflation index applied on October 1, 2016. Any facility that does not comply  
8 with terms of such certification shall be subjected to a clawback, paid by the nursing facility to the  
9 state, in the amount of increased reimbursement subject to this provision that was not expended in  
10 compliance with that certification.

11 (b) *Transition to full implementation of rate reform.* For no less than four (4) years after  
12 the initial application of the price-based methodology described in subsection (a)(2) to payment  
13 rates, the executive office of health and human services shall implement a transition plan to  
14 moderate the impact of the rate reform on individual nursing facilities. Said transition shall include  
15 the following components:

16 (1) No nursing facility shall receive reimbursement for direct-care costs that is less than  
17 the rate of reimbursement for direct-care costs received under the methodology in effect at the time  
18 of passage of this act; for the year beginning October 1, 2017, the reimbursement for direct-care  
19 costs under this provision will be phased out in twenty-five-percent (25%) increments each year  
20 until October 1, 2021, when the reimbursement will no longer be in effect; and

21 (2) No facility shall lose or gain more than five dollars (\$5.00) in its total, per diem rate the  
22 first year of the transition. An adjustment to the per diem loss or gain may be phased out by twenty-  
23 five percent (25%) each year; except, however, for the years beginning October 1, 2015, there shall  
24 be no adjustment to the per diem gain or loss, but the phase out shall resume thereafter; and

25 (3) The transition plan and/or period may be modified upon full implementation of facility  
26 per diem rate increases for quality of care-related measures. Said modifications shall be submitted  
27 in a report to the general assembly at least six (6) months prior to implementation.

28 (4) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, for the twelve-month (12) period beginning  
29 July 1, 2015, Medicaid payment rates for nursing facilities established pursuant to this section shall  
30 not exceed ninety-eight percent (98%) of the rates in effect on April 1, 2015. Consistent with the  
31 other provisions of this chapter, nothing in this provision shall require the executive office to restore  
32 the rates to those in effect on April 1, 2015, at the end of this twelve-month (12) period.

33 SECTION 4. Section 40-8.3-10 of the General Laws in Chapter 40-8.3 entitled  
34 "Uncompensated Care" is hereby repealed.

1 **40-8.3-10. Hospital adjustment payments.**

2 ~~Effective July 1, 2012 and for each subsequent year, the executive office of health and~~  
3 ~~human services is hereby authorized and directed to amend its regulations for reimbursement to~~  
4 ~~hospitals for outpatient services as follows:~~

5 ~~(a) Each hospital in the state of Rhode Island, as defined in subdivision 23-17-38.1(c)(1),~~  
6 ~~shall receive a quarterly outpatient adjustment payment each state fiscal year of an amount~~  
7 ~~determined as follows:~~

8 ~~(1) Determine the percent of the state's total Medicaid outpatient and emergency~~  
9 ~~department services (exclusive of physician services) provided by each hospital during each~~  
10 ~~hospital's prior fiscal year;~~

11 ~~(2) Determine the sum of all Medicaid payments to hospitals made for outpatient and~~  
12 ~~emergency department services (exclusive of physician services) provided during each hospital's~~  
13 ~~prior fiscal year;~~

14 ~~(3) Multiply the sum of all Medicaid payments as determined in subdivision (2) by a~~  
15 ~~percentage defined as the total identified upper payment limit for all hospitals divided by the sum~~  
16 ~~of all Medicaid payments as determined in subdivision (2); and then multiply that result by each~~  
17 ~~hospital's percentage of the state's total Medicaid outpatient and emergency department services as~~  
18 ~~determined in subsection (a) (1) to obtain the total outpatient adjustment for each hospital to be~~  
19 ~~paid each year;~~

20 ~~(4) Pay each hospital on or before July 20, October 20, January 20, and April 20 one quarter~~  
21 ~~(1/4) of its total outpatient adjustment as determined in subsection (a)(3).~~

22 ~~(b) The amounts determined in subsections (a) are in addition to Medicaid inpatient and~~  
23 ~~outpatient payments and emergency services payments (exclusive of physician services) paid to~~  
24 ~~hospitals in accordance with current state regulation and the Rhode Island Plan for Medicaid~~  
25 ~~Assistance pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act and are not subject to recoupment or~~  
26 ~~settlement.~~

27 SECTION 5. Rhode Island Medicaid Reform Act of 2008 Resolution.

28 WHEREAS, the General Assembly enacted Chapter 12.4 of Title 42 entitled "The Rhode  
29 Island Medicaid Reform Act of 2008"; and

30 WHEREAS, a legislative enactment is required pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws  
31 42-12.4-1, *et seq.*; and

32 WHEREAS, Rhode Island General Law 42-7.2-5(3)(a) provides that the Secretary of  
33 Health and Human Services ("Secretary"), of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
34 ("Executive Office"), is responsible for the review and coordination of any Medicaid section 1115

1 demonstration waiver requests and renewals as well as any initiatives and proposals requiring  
2 amendments to the Medicaid state plan or changes as described in the demonstration, “with  
3 potential to affect the scope, amount, or duration of publicly-funded health care services, provider  
4 payments or reimbursements, or access to or the availability of benefits and services provided by  
5 Rhode Island general and public laws”; and

6 WHEREAS, in pursuit of a more cost-effective consumer choice system of care that is fiscally  
7 sound and sustainable, the Secretary requests legislative approval of the following proposals to  
8 amend the demonstration:

9 (a) *Provider rates – Adjustments.* The Executive Office proposes to:

10 (i) eliminate the risk share arrangements with the health plans and increase the capitation  
11 rates in accordance with actuarial soundness requirements;

12 (ii) increase non-emergency medical transportation rates to ensure access to vital advanced  
13 life-support ambulance transport services;

14 (iii) maintain hospital inpatient and outpatient rates that are delivered through managed  
15 care and fee-for-service at the fiscal year 2020 levels;

16 (iv) increase rates to be paid to nursing facilities by one percent (1%) on October 1, 2020;

17 (b) *Perinatal Doula Services.* The Executive Office proposes to provide medical assistance health  
18 care for expectant mothers. The Executive Office would establish medical assistance coverage  
19 and reimbursement rates for perinatal doula services.

20 (c) *Implement co-payments for specific populations and services.* The Executive Office proposes  
21 to institute co-payments for adults (except those in institutions and those who are disabled) on  
22 prescription drugs and inpatient hospital stays in managed care and fee-for-service.

23 (d) *Implement requirements for RIte Share program.* The Executive Office proposes to require  
24 for-profit employers with fifty (50) or more employees to submit certain information to the  
25 State in order to maximize RIte Share enrollment. Implementation of adjustments may require  
26 amendments to the Rhode Island’s Medicaid state plan and/or section 1115 waiver under the  
27 terms and conditions of the demonstration. Further, adoption of new or amended rules,  
28 regulations and procedures may also be required.

29 (e) *Increase in the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals*  
30 *(“BHDDH”) Direct Care Service Worker Wages.* To further the long-term care system  
31 rebalancing goal of improving access to high quality services in the least restrictive setting, the  
32 Executive Office proposes to establish a targeted wage increase for certain community-based  
33 BHDDH developmental disability private providers and self-directed consumer direct care service  
34 workers to be effective January 1, 2021. Implementation of this initiative may require amendments

1 to the Medicaid State Plan and/or Section 1115 demonstration waiver due to changes in payment  
2 methodologies.

3 (f) *Federal Financing Opportunities*. The Executive Office proposes to review Medicaid  
4 requirements and opportunities under the U.S. Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of  
5 2010 (PPACA) and various other recently enacted federal laws and pursue any changes in the  
6 Rhode Island Medicaid program that promote service quality, access and cost-effectiveness  
7 that may warrant a Medicaid state plan amendment or amendment under the terms and  
8 conditions of Rhode Island's section 1115 waiver, its successor, or any extension thereof. Any  
9 such actions by the Executive Office shall not have an adverse impact on beneficiaries or cause  
10 there to be an increase in expenditures beyond the amount appropriated for state fiscal year  
11 2020.

12 Now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, the General Assembly hereby approves the proposals stated in (a) through  
14 (f) above; and be it further;

15 RESOLVED, the Secretary of the Executive Office is authorized to pursue and implement  
16 any 1115 demonstration waiver amendments, Medicaid state plan amendments, and/or changes to  
17 the applicable department's rules, regulations and procedures approved herein and as authorized  
18 by Chapter 42-12.4; and be it further;

19 RESOLVED, that this Joint Resolution shall take effect upon passage.

20 SECTION 6. This article shall take effect upon passage.