



**RHODE ISLAND
MEDICAL SOCIETY**

June 16, 2015

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The Honorable
Nicholas A. Mattiello
Speaker of the House
Room 323 State House
Providence, RI 02903

The Honorable
M. Teresa Paiva Weed
Senate President
Room 318 State House
Providence, RI 02903

Re: In support of broadened immunity under the Good Samaritan Overdose Prevention Act

Dear Madame President and Mister Speaker,

The undersigned organizations of Rhode Island medical professionals urge the General Assembly to enact S-0576 Sub A (or to amend H-5416 Sub A to match the broader immunities provided by the Senate version).

The severe epidemic of overdose deaths requires that we put life before punishment. Affording inclusive protections and immunities to those who take life-saving action will increase the likelihood that people who find themselves in desperate situations will do the right thing, and lives will be saved in Rhode Island.

Please exert your leadership to ensure that the General Assembly passes a strong, inclusive Good Samaritan bill this year.

Thank you.

Rhode Island Medical Society
Rhode Island Dental Association
Rhode Island Society of Addiction Medicine
American Academy of Pediatrics, Rhode Island Chapter
Rhode Island Academy of Family Physicians
American College of Emergency Physicians, Rhode Island Chapter
American College of Physicians, Rhode Island Chapter
American College of Surgeons/ Providence Surgical Society
American Congress of OB/GYN, Rhode Island Section
Rhode Island Academy of Physician Assistants
Rhode Island Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
Rhode Island Dermatological Society
Rhode Island Medical Women's Association
Rhode Island Orthopedic Society
Rhode Island Psychiatric Society
Rhode Island Radiological Society
Rhode Island Society of Allergy
Rhode Island Society of Anesthesiologists
Rhode Island Society of Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgeons