

*For Immediate Release*

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## **Hospitals Applaud Commitment to Health Care Transformation**

**CRANSTON, R.I. – March 13, 2015**

“The Hospital Association of Rhode Island and its members applaud Governor Raimondo’s commitment to transforming our health care delivery system,” said Michael R. Souza, president, Hospital Association of Rhode Island. “Unfortunately, hospitals will face \$54 million in cuts that will further destabilize fragile hospitals employing nearly 20,000 health care professionals. We are grateful that the Governor recognizes the need for long-term solutions and look forward to working with the Working Group to Reinvent Medicaid to identify changes that will provide Rhode Islanders with quality health care while controlling costs.”

“Our industry is vital to the economy and health of our state. Hospitals provide Rhode Island with more than \$6.9 billion in economic activity while caring for patients on more than two million occasions.”

“We look forward to working with the General Assembly and Governor to reform our health care system to deliver long-term cost savings without hindering the ability of hospitals to continue to invest in innovation, technology, and high quality professional careers.”

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*Founded over a half century ago, the Hospital Association of Rhode Island is a statewide trade organization that assists member hospitals in effectively meeting the health care needs of Rhode Island, through advocacy, representation, education and services. HARI members work collaboratively to improve the quality of care delivered and address issues threatening access to health care. HARI members work together to ensure that all Rhode Islanders will receive comprehensive, high-quality health care.*