



TOWN OF WARREN, RHODE ISLAND
Office of Planning & Community Development

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Memorandum

To: Distinguished Member of the House Committee on Finance
From: Robert Rulli, Director
Re: House Bill 5526
Date: March 1, 2021

On behalf of the Town of Warren, I would like to express my support of House Bill 5526. In these difficult economic conditions, it would seem that we would want to create every advantage and incentive possible to retain our manufacturing and commercial businesses within the State.

The decision to offer tax stabilization, abatement or exemption is a local decision impacting local funds. Often the choice a business makes to relocate outside of the state is beyond just the inability of a community to offer financial relief. Proximity to transportation, work force and access and to broadband also potentially contribute to a decision to relocate. Given Warren's proximity to Massachusetts and the Commonwealth's aggressive business attraction incentives, the lack of this critical tool is significant.

I strongly urge you to consider this legislation and support it moving forward.