

Wednesday, 4/7 Hearing on Budget Article 1, Section 18 (Extension of Bonds)

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

My name is Charles Feldman, I'm from Providence and I use RIPTA as my primary way of going grocery shopping, going to my spiritual center, and going to doctor's appointments. My workplace is within a short walking distance, so I do not need to take the bus for that, although I have in the past.

I'm very concerned about the loss of a central bus hub where I can make timely transfers and connections to get where I'm going. Breaking up transfer locations means that it will take me even longer than it already does to get where I'm going by bus.

I'm especially upset that RIDOT will use the 2014 Mass Transit Hub Infrastructure Bond funds to dismantle and deconstruct the central bus hub in Kennedy Plaza. This was not what voters like me intended when I voted in favor of that bond.

Please amend Article 1, Section 18 by inserting the following two sentences beginning on line 6 of as follows:

"Per the 2014 Mass Transit Hub Infrastructure Bond ballot question, funds may only be utilized to fund enhancements and renovations to transit hub infrastructures. No bond funds may be utilized to dismantle or otherwise deconstruct the state's primary transit hub in Kennedy Plaza."

Thank you,

Charles Feldman
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