



June 2, 2021

Hon. David A. Bennett  
Chair  
Committee on Environment and Agriculture  
State of Rhode Island Senate  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903

**Re: Support for: H-6393**

Dear Chair Bennett:

BuildRI is a domestic non-profit trade association comprised of four (4) contractor associations (the Labor Relations Division of the RI Chapter of the Associated General Contractors, the New England Mechanical Contractors' Ass'n, the RI Mason Contractors' Ass'n, and the RI and Southeast MA Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors' Ass'n), and eighteen (18) Local Trade Unions. On behalf of our organization, I write to offer our unqualified **SUPPORT** of this Bill for the reasons that follow.

This legislation requires that all corrosion prevention and mitigation work be performed by individuals certified by an independent third party such as The Society of Protective Coatings (SSPC) or the National Association of Civil Engineers (NACE), specifically, SSPC ACS-1/NACE No. 13 Industrial Coating and lining Application Specialist Qualification and Certification.

The cost of not having workers with these certifications complete this type of work causes corrosion on our infrastructure, the cost of which is estimated to be more than \$450 billion. This legislation ensures that all corrosion and mitigation work on our infrastructure projects is completed by highly skilled, properly trained workers who maintain required industry certifications. This ensures that this work will be completed by workers that have the skill, capacity, and knowledge to properly install protective coating systems on all corrosion and mitigation work. Accordingly, we urge passage of this legislation.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

**Gregory A. Mancini**  
Executive Director/General Counsel