



RIEEA

Rhode Island Environmental
Education Association

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On Behalf of the Rhode Island Environmental Education Association

In Support of H-8127 - RIPTA Board Composition

House Corporations

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

The Rhode Island Environmental Education Association (RIEEA) supports **H-8127** and respectfully urges its passage.

This bill would strengthen the governance of the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority by broadening board representation to include perspectives from the Rhode Island Climate Community and other key stakeholders. Expanding and diversifying representation in this way helps ensure that public transit planning reflects the needs of riders, communities, and the environment. Reliable and accessible public transportation is critical for connecting Rhode Islanders to parks, natural areas, and outdoor learning spaces, particularly for those who may not otherwise have access. By supporting more inclusive and responsive transit decision-making, this legislation aligns with RIEEA's mission to expand equitable access to the outdoors and foster meaningful connections between people and the natural environment across our state.

The RIEEA membership includes over 70 organizations¹ including Audubon Society of Rhode Island, Save The Bay, the Rhode Island Conservation Districts, and Rhode Island College, as well as over 400 individuals including youth and students. RIEEA's membership and supporters care deeply about Rhode Island's natural places, health, and economic stability. I encourage you to pass this important legislation, **H-8127**.

¹ <https://www.rieea.org/about-us/organizational-members/>