



March 11, 2025

The Honorable Joseph McNamara, Chairman

Honorable Members of the House Education Committee

Rhode Island State House

82 Smith Street

Providence, RI 02903

RE: Support for H5420

Dear Chairman McNamara and Members of the Committee,

I am writing on behalf of First Student, the leading provider of student transportation services in Rhode Island and across North America, to express our strong support for House Bill 5420, which proposes to amend the definition of a “pupil transportation vehicle” to accommodate up to ten passengers plus the operator.

As the largest provider of student transportation in Rhode Island and across North America, First Student is committed to enhancing the safety, efficiency, and accessibility of student transportation services. We recognize that modernizing transportation regulations to reflect current needs is crucial in addressing challenges such as driver shortages and evolving educational environments.

We commend Chairman McNamara’s efforts to update transportation legislation and believe that such measures will lead to more flexible and efficient student transportation systems. First Student stands ready to support this initiative and collaborate with stakeholders to ensure its successful implementation.

Sincerely,

Richard Capriolo

Area General Manager

First Student