Lou Mansolillo

From: Sent: To: Subject: pat@expert-access.com Tuesday, February 4, 2025 11:36 AM House Environment and Natural Resources Committee H5099

Dear Mr. Mansolillo,

Kindly accept this written testimony in support of H5099 to be addressed at the House Environmental and Natural Resources Committee and add it to today's documents.

I am pleased that this act would authorize and empower the department of transportation (DOT) to plant pollinator friendly native species of trees, shrubs and plants within limits of a roadway, including state highways. Right now, however, the words *"shall" and "may" are part of this bill's current language, instead of "should" and "must"*.. Can you please make sure the language is changed?

Roadsides represent potential significant pollinator habitat and pollinator species have been in decline for some time due to habitat loss, poor nutrition, parasites and disease, pesticide use, and the changing climate. We need to ensure that these pollinators flourish going forward.

Thank you,

Pat Schneider

Pat Schneider Little Compton, RI 02837