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Attn: Representative Bennett, Chair, House Environment and Natural Resources Committee and Committee Members

Testimony on H 5342

Relating to State Affairs and Government- Department of Environmental Management Before the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Rhode Island Farm Bureau is an independent, non-governmental grassroots organization of farm families united to enhance and strengthen the lives of rural Americans, and to build strong, prosperous agricultural communities. Today our over 1000 members are not only large farmers and small farmers but also those engaged in agricultural industries, teachers of agriculture, and consumers.

We recognize the support Leader Chippendale has given the Rhode Island Farm Bureau and agriculture in Rhode Island over the years. Rhode Island Farm Bureau policy does not support restricted receipt accounts. While we have some concerns about the advisory committee make-up, we look forward to discussing that with the sponsor and interested parties. If the bill should pass, the Rhode Island Farm Bureau should have a seat on the advisory committee. We look forward to working with Leader Chippendale and the Department of Environmental Management on this issue.

Henry B. Wright III

President, RI Farm Bureau

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