



**westbay community action**

*Helping people. Changing lives.*

April 3, 2025

The Honorable Marvin Abney  
Chair, House Finance Committee  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

**Re: H-6149---Relating to establishing a separate fund within the general fund called the Rhode Island Meals on Wheels Inc. Fund.**

Dear Chairman Abney:

I write to you today in support of H-6149---Relating to establishing a separate fund within the general fund called the Rhode Island Meals on Wheels Inc. Fund, which would be administered by the General Treasurer in accordance with the same laws and fiscal procedures as the general fund of the state. The fund will consist of sums collected as a result of the taxpayer checkoffs as provided for in Chapter 30 of Title 10 44.

Meals on Wheels served 3,738 Rhode Islanders in 2024, who are at risk of food insecurity, isolation and loss of independence. The agency continues to reach new populations and continues to deepen its impact statewide with the aging and disabled population. However, the continued rising cost of food, combined with the growth of the aging population, creates unique challenges for the organization. The additional funds raised through the Rhode Island Meals on Wheels, Inc. Fund will greatly assist the organization in serving more people and ensuring its sustainability for the future. Westbay Community Action supports this legislation to establish the Rhode Island Meals on Wheels, Inc. Fund.

I thank you for your continued support and consideration of this letter and for your continued leadership and advocacy for all of Rhode Island's aging and disabled population.

Regards,

Paul Salera  
President/CEO

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