



SEIUHealthcare®
United for Quality Care

Alex Moore, Political Director
SEIU 1199NE
319 Broadway
Providence, RI 02909
amoore@seiu1199ne.org

May 5, 2025

Testimony in Support of H-5473 – Fair Share Income Tax for the Top 1%

Chair Abney and Honorable Members of the House Finance Committee,

On behalf of SEIU 1199 New England, representing over 7,000 healthcare and service workers across Rhode Island, we write in strong support of **H-5473**, which would add a 3% income tax on earnings over approximately \$625,000—affecting only the top 1% of Rhode Islanders.

This policy is both fair and urgent. There are only about **5,700 people in the entire state** making more than \$625,000 a year. These individuals are already among the wealthiest, and yet, under a likely second round of **Trump tax cuts**, they are poised to receive even larger federal windfalls.

And how will those tax cuts be paid for? **Through deep cuts to Medicaid and other essential public programs**—cuts that will have devastating consequences for Rhode Island's healthcare system, which is already under tremendous strain.

We cannot afford to leave Rhode Island's future at the mercy of federal rollbacks. If we don't act now to **generate state-level revenue from those who can afford it**, we risk the collapse of critical services like long-term care, hospital operations, and community-based healthcare programs that our members and their patients depend on every day.

H-5473 simply asks the wealthiest 1% to pay their fair share. It maintains the current three-bracket structure for everyone else, while adding one new top bracket that only applies to the very highest earners.

This is a smart, targeted way to protect Rhode Islanders from the fallout of federal austerity—without placing further burdens on working families.

We urge the committee to support H-5473 and keep Rhode Island on the path to fiscal stability, fairness, and compassion.

Respectfully,

Alex Moore
Political Director, SEIU 1199NE