



Alexandra Perkins
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Representative Marvin Abney, Chair
RI House Finance Committee

Dear Chairman Abney and esteemed members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing in support of House Bill 5473, also known as the "Revenue for Rhode Island" bill, sponsored by Representative Karen Alzate.

Burdening the people who already struggle the most- low income earners- with being the largest tax percentage revenue stream is asinine. You have to be either very stupid or rich and very greedy to think it's logical or fair. Robust social services improve the lives of everyone, not just low-income earners. I don't know why I should have to tell you the reasons, since serving the public is your job and this information has been found to be true over and over again. But when money is spent on public services like public transportation, emissions go down because we all have more access to not being car reliant- more efficiently moving larger quantities of people using fewer resources. That's what investing in the bus does!

I remember maybe a month or 2 into the pandemic- May or June of 2020- I walked out of my house to go lay in the park as my form of being a little closer to people but still safe, and traffic had diminished significantly by then- the air was cleaner in Providence than I have ever smelled it. Walking down Penn Street I could smell the ocean. Emissions were way down, and we finally had clean air. I want to live in that world. I want protected and expanded green spaces. I want all school children to have food to eat and safe places to be and learn. Stop halting progress with greed. High-income earners should pay their fair share.

Respectfully,
Alexandra Perkins