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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.

Every time I look at the 1 grain of rice compared to a massive pile, it makes me think - would anyone spot the difference if a few grains of rice were missing?

I, like many others, depend on public transportation around the city of Providence. RIPTA is doing the best they can with what little funding they receive. Routes are planned to close and less buses will be available, making the lives of normal everyday people extremely difficult. I also depend on the roadways, sidewalks, and public spaces such as parks for my life. Many of my loved ones rely on Medicaid/Medicare for their well-being. This should be funded. Healthcare is a basic human right. I ask, why should the burden of budget cuts fall onto the people that rely on them? I doubt they would notice the few grains of rice missing. Please consider taxing the rich to help fund the common good for all.

Respectfully, April Hunt