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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.

Essentially all social services in Rhode Island are currently under threat by the federal government. Cuts to Medicaid will kick thousands of Rhode Islanders off of their health insurance and do untold damage to the already weak hospital networks we all rely on. Cuts to education will hurt many public schools that are already struggling in Rhode Island, some of them serving the poorest children in our state. In the face of what will most likely be a federal budget that again slashes taxes for the absolute wealthiest of our society, it is not only irresponsible to not increase taxes on those that have been so favored by this administration, it is willfully allowing the suffering and immiseration that is the goal of Donald Trump and the Republican party. Rhode Island is a great state that is already struggling in many aspects, and is in desperate need of investments into housing and infrastructure, as well as ensuring the safety, health, and freedom to all of its residents through a variety of social and community programs. This goal cannot be only achievable at the whim of an increasingly ineffective federal government, or we will all suffer for it.

Respectfully,  
Cameron Thibeault