

May 6, 2025

The Honorable Marvin Abney

HouseFinance@rilegislature.gov

Chairman, House Finance Committee

Rhode Island State House – Room 35

Providence, Rhode Island 02903

OPPOSE H 5473

Dear Chairman Abney and Members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing today express my strong opposition to H 5473, which seeks to increase personal income tax rates. Higher taxes will hurt everyone – from small businesses to the non-profits that rely on philanthropy to the single mother who can't find a well-paying job.

The proposed increase in H 5473 is aimed directly at small “mom and pop” businesses that pay taxes as a pass-through entity. Higher taxes will only serve to burden successful small businesses, making it harder to create jobs and contribute to the local economy.

Furthermore, increasing taxes will make Rhode Island less competitive compared to other states. Businesses are constantly evaluating their options when it comes to location, and higher taxes can be a significant factor in their decision-making process. If Rhode Island becomes less tax-friendly, businesses may choose to locate or relocate to states with more favorable tax policies, taking jobs and revenue with them.

In order to promote economic growth and prosperity in Rhode Island, it is crucial that

we maintain a business-friendly environment. I urge you to oppose H 5473 and work towards policies that businesses and encourage investment in our state.

Sincerely,

Joshua Varone