



May 6, 2025

Dear Chairman and Committee Members,

On behalf of the Immigrant Coalition and our 38 member organizations, I ask this Committee to support House Bill 5473, which would tax the top 1% of income earners in Rhode Island by creating a 3% surtax on income above \$625,000.

We need Rhode Island's leaders to be proactive, not reactive. Rhode Island relies on federal funds for 35.8% of the state budget – and federal funding cuts have been proposed. This would make our budget deficit worse. The federal cuts from DC threaten critical programs in Rhode Island that we need, such as Medicaid, SNAP and Head Start.

All Rhode Island kids need more, not less, and the U.S. Department of Education is threatening to withhold federal funding if states refuse to abandon diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives. We know that that is more than \$116 million in congressionally-mandated financial support annually in Rhode Island. We need you to step up and approve this bill so our kids have a chance to thrive.

Sincerely,

Juan Pablo Ocampo Sheen, Coordinator
c/o Immigrant Coalition of Rhode Island
immigrantcoalitionri@gmail.com



IMMIGRANT COALITION OF RHODE ISLAND

THE IMMIGRANT COALITION OF RHODE ISLAND MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

American Civil Liberties Union of Rhode Island (ACLU RI)
AMOR: Alliance to Mobilize Our Resistance
Alliance of Rhode Island Southeast Asians for Education (ARISE)
Center for Justice RI
Coalition for a Multilingual RI (CMRI)
Coalition of Advocates for Student Opportunities (CASO)
Conexión Latina Newport
Connecting for Children and Families
DARE: Direct Action For Rights And Equality
Diocese of Providence
Dorcas International Institute
Economic Progress Institute
Elmwood Avenue Church of God Refugee Relief
First Unitarian Church of Providence Sanctuary Group
Fuerza Laboral
International House of Rhode Island
Latino Policy Institute
New Bridges for Haitian Success
Olneyville Neighborhood Association (ONA)
Olneyville Resilience Hub
Oasis International
Planned Parenthood of Southern New England
Progreso Latino
Providence Youth Student Movement (PrYSM)
Refugee Dream Center
Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence (RICADV)
Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
RI Coalition for Children and Families
RI Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty
RI State Council of Churches
RWU Immigration Law Clinic
RWU Pro Bono Collaborative
Sisters of Mercy
Sojourner House
Student Clinic for Immigrant Justice
The Jewish Alliance of Greater RI
The Liberian Community Association
Truth in Immigration Project