

May 5, 2025

Re: In Support of H5473 - An Act Relating To Taxation - Personal Income Tax

Dear Chairman Abney, Vice Chairs Slater and Marszalkowski, and Members of the House Finance Committee,

On behalf of the Rhode Island Coalition for Children and Families (RICCF), we write to urge the General Assembly to prioritize sustainable and equitable revenue strategies that ensure our state can meet the needs of its children, youth, and families. We strongly support H5473 and commend Representative Alzate and her cosponsors for this important bill.

Stable, adequate state revenue is essential to continuing the vital work of the state in supporting behavioral health, child welfare, shelter and housing, family violence, and family support services. The challenges facing children and families are complex - and our ability to meet them depends directly on the state's ability and willingness to prioritize funding for those most in need.

RICCF member organizations serve Rhode Islanders in every community in Rhode Island - those with the most severe challenges to opportunity and well-being. Federal cuts are looming that will impact those already at most risk. The state is challenged annually to find the revenue to meet increasing population needs and program costs. Evidence from our neighboring states shows us that a small tax increase on the top earners in our state will bring in meaningful revenue without tax flight. Now more than ever, we must invest boldly and responsibly in our shared future.

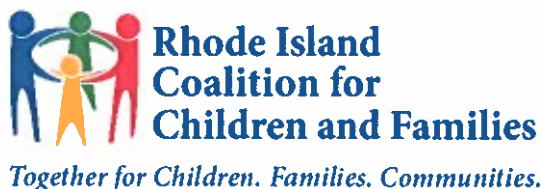
We recognize that in a small state with limited resources, a fair and balanced approach to raising revenue is necessary to meet growing demand. As costs rise and needs deepen, it is vital that we increase revenue to avoid harmful cuts to the programs that support our children, youth, and families at the most risk. We urge your support of H5473.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Tanja Kubas Meyer".

Tanja Kubas Meyer
Executive Director



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