

Chris O'Brien

From: Annette Bourne <manborn3@cox.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 8:40 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Fw: Cranston resident seeking your support of H5477 for budget support of a Rhode Island Main Street America pilot program

Dear Mr. O'Brien,

Below, please see the email I sent to Rep. Baginski this morning regarding today's House Finance hearing of H5477. I apologize for not having cc'd you on the original email.

Thank you,
Annette Bourne

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Annette Bourne <manborn3@cox.net>
To: rep-baginski@rilegislature.gov <rep-baginski@rilegislature.gov>
Cc: rep-handy@rilegislature.gov <rep-handy@rilegislature.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 08:27:38 AM EDT
Subject: Cranston resident seeking your support of H5477 for budget support of a Rhode Island Main Street America pilot program

Dear Representative Baginski,

I am writing as a resident of Cranston requesting your support of H5477, which will be heard in the House Finance Committee today. House Resolution [H5477](#) would make an appropriation of \$500,000 for Grow Smart RI to work with Main Street America over a 3-year pilot period to bring their training programs to Rhode Island communities. [Read the release HERE.](#))

My State Representative Arthur Handy is the lead sponsor of this bill knowing how impactful this program could be across all 39 cities and towns in Rhode Island, but particularly to our city of Cranston. From your district with areas like Oaklawn and Pontiac to my surrounding neighborhoods from Pawtuxet Village to Elmwood Avenue, the Main Streets America program thrives where local businesses and community members have a network to begin to connect and effectively grow, activate, beautify, and promote their downtowns and neighborhood centers as vibrant and attractive destinations for visitors, residents, developers, and businesses.

While it is a tight budget year, a Main Streets program would be a catalyst to local economic growth that would enrich both the financial and social aspects of Rhode Island's communities. I urge you to support H5477. Please be in touch if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Annette Bourne
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