



From: Carla Doughty, Executive Director  
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May 13, 2025

To: House Finance Committee  
Attn: [HouseFinance@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseFinance@rilegislature.gov)  
Subject: Support For HB 5195 (Compost Fund)

Dear House Finance Committee,

Zero Waste Providence works to offset the burden of our local governments around environmental education, and provides residents practical support for effecting habit changes at the household level to increase residential materials recycling and food scrap composting. We strongly support HB 5195, the Compost Fund, which will create a small yet effective funding source for organizations and municipalities to continue to build local compost infrastructure and increase participation in diverting compostable materials away from landfill. Composting and food scrap recycling is gaining more and more interest and attention as a practical, non-partisan, and extremely effective method of processing municipal food waste tonnage. While yielding valuable soil amendment for agricultural and landscaping use, composting prevents the emission of harmful greenhouse gases (GHGs such as methane) which emerge from landfilling the exact same feedstocks!

Studying the facts and figures from statewide and city reports such as: RI Solid Waste Characterization Study (2015), Moving Towards Zero Waste (2021), and the Special Commission on PVD Waste's Final Report (2024), there is wide consensus that more composting infrastructure will only benefit the state of Rhode Island. Please pass HB 5195 to allow this industry to grow and thrive. This is a priority bill this session for our small but informed organization of 500 members. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions about my years of professional experience in the private and non-profit compost industries here in my home state of RI.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Carla Doughty  
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