

To the honorable Members of the House Finance Committee:

My name is Marc Bialek, and I am the executive director of the Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association. RINLA is the voice of 200 Landscape and Nursery businesses in Rhode Island for over 100 years, and I am writing in support of H5534, which would allow small and urban farms to receive the same tax exemptions that large farms receive in our state.

Rhode Island has some of the country's most expensive land prices; therefore, many of our most productive and thriving farms are under five acres. A farm's tax status should not be based on land size. Given the land prices in this state, there will only be more small and urban farms in the future. This bill is important to me because it will directly impact the financial well-being of my farm and all farms in Rhode Island.

Sincerely,

Marc Bialek

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Marc Bialek

Executive Director

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