

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

My name is Serena Fadel, and I live in Providence, Rhode Island. I am writing in strong support of H5534, which would finally extend long-overdue tax benefits to Rhode Island's small and urban farms.

These farms—once excluded from tax relief because of their size—are now an essential and fast-growing part of our state's food system. According to the USDA's 2022 Ag Census, we have over 250 small and urban farms across Rhode Island. These farms are not only viable small businesses, but also serve as community hubs offering access to fresh, affordable produce, educational programs, job training, and environmental benefits like stormwater management and soil health.

H5534 is carefully written to ensure that only qualified farms—those filing proper IRS documentation and meeting all state requirements—will benefit. This bill will help secure the future of our small and urban farms at a time when federal aid is no longer available.

I urge you to pass H5534 and help support the backbone of Rhode Island's local, sustainable food movement.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Serena

--
--



Serena Fadel

Brown University Class of 2025
Email: serena_fadel@brown.edu
Address: 69 Brown St., Box #6111,
Providence, Rhode Island, 02912

v