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RE: House Bill No. 5233

Dear Chairman Abney and members of the House Finance Committee

I'm writing to urge your support for House Bill No. 5233 that would establish a state income tax credit for family caregivers who incur out-of-pocket expenses while caring for a loved one.

Family caregivers in Rhode Island spend an average of \$7,200 each year from their own pockets to provide essential care and support—often at great personal and financial sacrifice. With an estimated 121,000 family caregivers across our state, these unpaid individuals form the backbone of our long-term care system.

Without them, our already strained healthcare infrastructure would be pushed past its limits. A tax credit like the one proposed in this bill would not only provide much-needed financial relief, but also recognize the critical role caregivers play in keeping our communities healthy, safe, and supported.

Please stand with Rhode Island's caregivers by supporting this bill. It's a smart, compassionate investment in the people who are doing some of the hardest and most important work in our state.

Sincerely,

Marianne Kelly