

Valued Representatives,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Transportation Bill #6236.

First and foremost, I want to highlight the environmental implications of this bill. Public school bus transportation significantly reduces road congestion and lowers carbon emissions compared to individual car trips. If this bill passes, it would force more families—like mine—to drive their children to school, increasing traffic and driving emissions in the wrong direction at a time when we should be prioritizing climate action and sustainability.

I am a resident of South Kingstown and a parent of a child who attends Meadowbrook Waldorf School. My husband and I both work full-time jobs, and we rely on the existing bus service to transport our child to and from school. We are not a wealthy family—sending our children to Waldorf was a thoughtful decision rooted in our values, and we've made financial sacrifices to support it.

The proposed changes in Bill #6236 would erode the support that our town—and by extension, our state—provides to families like ours.

We believe our tax dollars should support both our local public schools and the transportation needs of families who choose alternative educational paths. Restricting access to bussing between South Kingstown and the proposed separate district of Richmond would create unnecessary hardship and limit educational choice.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

Pamela Lezaeta
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