

Testimony in support of H5405: Liability and Computation—Ride-Share Sales Taxes for the Benefit of RIPTA

Dr. Hans Scholl, 71 Fales Avenue, Barrington, RI 02806

Date of Hearing: May 21, 2025

To Chair Abney and the honorable Members of the House Finance Committee:

RIPTA is, again, underfunded and has to cut service, undermining the efforts to increase public transportation as one of the effective means to meet the greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets of the RI Act on Climate, and providing hardships for riders in areas that will no longer be serviced.

In this situation, funding mechanisms that have yet not been considered, should be implemented and help to fund RIPTA, including funding through sales taxes from ride-share companies.

I support the bill because it would provide such funding using a restricted receipt account for the benefit of RIPTA for use to fund its operations, funded by sales taxes collected from ride-share companies, which account would be exempt from indirect cost recovery provisions.

Please bring the bill to a vote in 2025.

Thank you very much for considering my input, and thank you to Representative Morales for introducing this important bill.



Dr. Hans Scholl

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71 Fales Avenue
Barrington, RI 02806; (203) 687-6415; clclt17@mac.com