

Dear Chair Abney and honorable members of the House Finance Committee,

My name is Cedric Ye, and I am a high school student and near-daily RIPTA rider. **I am writing in support of H5468**, which would index the two-year inflation adjustment of the gas tax to two years of inflation, instead of one.

The gas tax is the single largest source of state funding for RIPTA, which means that -- if H5467 was passed, which allocates RIPTA 30% of the gas tax as originally intended -- any increase to the gas tax would be significant in helping preserve and expand this essential service. H5468 simply ensures that gas tax increases correspond to the actual pace of inflation instead of half the pace.

The fact this is not the case today seems like a critical oversight, and -- given this challenging fiscal year -- fixing this should be a common-sense measure that is sorely needed and highly desirable. I urge you to please pass H5468, a logical piece of legislation that provides RIPTA and RIDOT funding they should have been receiving all along.

Thank you so much for your consideration,

Cedric Ye

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