

Testimony in support of H6020: Joint Resolution—Appropriation for 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:

I support the appropriation of \$32,5094,799 because it provides the urgently needed funding for RIPTA in order to to continue current service throughout the State, hire and train more bus operators, and implement the State's Act on Climate goals. This funding is critically important, especially this year, when RIPTA is severely under-funded and will have to cut back on service.

These service cuts will hit commuters in rural areas particularly hard, because they depend on RIPTA to get to work. If they lose that service they will no longer be able to use public transportation to commute to their workplaces, and are at risk to also losing their jobs. To make things worse, service cuts would impact in particular the financially most vulnerable residents, who often can't afford to own a car.

Please bring the bill to a vote in 2025.

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



Dr. Hans Scholl

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