

Chris O'Brien

From: Joan Moran-Izzo <JMoran-Izzo@wpri.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2025 8:28 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: RE: Bus Transpiration Bill Affecting Private Schools

Dear Representative, Cortvriend and Senator Ujifusa,

Thank you for taking the time to form a study commission on student transportation in Rhode Island. I understand your concern; however, I have chosen to send my child to St. Mary Academy - Bay View from *Cranston* because this school is part of my family's legacy. Bay View is also the best learning environment for my children to grow and learn. Other reasons for choosing this private school are as follows:

- This school's mission more directly aligns to our values and/or faith traditions.
- Our school has made a significant impact on the lives of three generations in my family who have chosen to go to Bay View over any other school in the area.

Bus transportation is one of the very few student supports supported by our tax dollars that make it possible for my child to get to and from the school that best serves her needs. Additionally, having the buses on the road cuts down the cost on the roads having less cars travel daily. A bus is a safe option to get students to and from school. If there is a change to bus transportation it will deeply impact my child's wellbeing and our family's ability to get our child to and from school.

Private schools have used buses for decades without issue, this not only creates jobs, but also cuts down on our carbon footprint. I support all students going to the school that best serves their needs in this state, and we need our elected officials to help ensure every child has transportation to get to the school that is best for that student through regional busing. Families need your support for all children in Rhode Island. I strongly urge you to consider all our students in Rhode Island and their families and protect student transportation options.

Thank you in advance for listening to all the needs of families in RI who have chosen a private education, and most importantly who have chosen what they believe is best for their children. Please don't take our children's transportation away!

Best,

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