

March 3, 2026

**Re: Testimony on the Governor's Budget Bill H-7127, Article 5, Section 6 for the Tax on High Earners Revenue Proposal: FOR**

Dear House Finance Committee Members:

Thank you for your time. My name is Julie DiBari. I am testifying on behalf of the Women's Fund of Rhode Island's Policy and Advocacy Committee, comprised of unpaid, volunteer women from all walks of life in the community who care about legislative issues. Fair Taxation is an issue the Committee is excited to support this year.

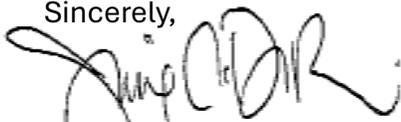
We are thrilled that the Governor's Budget is addressing fair taxation and has included in his budget an increased tax on ultra-high wealth earners. We are also thrilled with the line item in the budget to increase the childcare tax credit, which would only be possible via a fair taxation approach. Affordable childcare and fair taxation are critical for the economic security of women in Rhode Island. Women are the sole income earners in the vast majority of single head households and contribute significantly to dual income households.

It is time to ensure that the middle income and upper middle-income women, men and families, are not paying more as a percentage of their income than the wealthiest in the state.

This idea of Fair Taxation is not a new one in Rhode Island. We had fair taxation in the periods when our middle class saw its greatest growth and financial security. It is only in the past couple of decades that we have seen a slide toward the highest earners not paying a fair share as a percentage of their income compared to middle income and high middle-income workers. We are thrilled that the Governor has made a proposal to change that.

Thank you again for considering our testimony. We also look forward to this Committee considering House Bill 7313 in future sessions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie DiBari', written in a cursive style.

Julie DiBari

Policy & Advocacy Committee Co-Chair, Women's Fund of Rhode Island

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