

Testimony in Support of the Green Bond (H7127 Article 6, Question 5)

Subject: FOR H7127 Article 6, Question 5

Dear Chair Abney and Members of the House Finance Committee,

My name is Dr. Alison Tovar, and I am an Associate Professor in the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences at the Brown University School of Public Health. I am writing in support of H7127 Article 6, Question 5, the Green Bond.

My work focuses on food systems, nutrition, and influences on human health. Environmental conditions, such as access to farmland, clean water, and healthy ecosystems, are fundamental determinants of population health. Protecting these resources is critical not only for environmental sustainability but also for long-term public health.

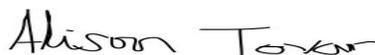
Investments through the Green Bond have historically supported farmland preservation, open space protection, and conservation efforts that strengthen Rhode Island's food system and environmental resilience. These investments help ensure that the state maintains the natural resources necessary to support local agriculture, reduce environmental degradation, and promote healthier communities.

Preserving farmland and open space is especially important as we confront climate change and increasing pressures on food systems. Supporting these initiatives through the Green Bond represents a forward-looking investment in Rhode Island's environmental and public health infrastructure.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued support of policies that protect the health of Rhode Island's people and environment.

Thank you for your consideration and for your leadership during this critical time.

Sincerely,
Alison Tovar, PhD (Providence, RI)



Associate Professor^[SEP]

Associate Professor
Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Brown University School of Public Health
Tel: 401-863-7327
Box G-S121-4, Providence, RI 02912, USA