

To Chair Cortvriend and Honorable Members of the Committee,

I want to urge you all to support H7127 in the Governor's budget to fund RIPTA. When I friends come to visit Providence and we are able to use the bus as an easy and reliable resource, it makes me so proud of our city. Whether going from Oak on the East Side to Free Play downtown, Riff Raff to Irregardless, the bus helps connect all of the economically important small businesses and tourism draws in our city of Providence.

Beyond Providence, I depend on RIPTA for access to the entire state--I remember taking a packed bus back from Newport after Jazz Fest and we weren't able to pick everyone up along the bus route because there were so many people on board already. This was right after last year's funding cuts were announced and it seemed hard to imagine how a resource as vital as public transit would be de-prioritized by our elected officials. Please support H7127 in the Governor's budget to fund RIPTA.

Best,

Charlotte

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Charlotte Van Voorhis

she/her/hers

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