

Dear Chair Cortvriend and Committee members,

My name is Chrys Santos and I am a student at Blackstone Academy Charter School. I am also a student advocate at Young Voices. I am writing in support of Bill H7127 funding the RIPTA budget and urging you to support the restoration of funding for RIPTA by undoing the service cuts.

This bill is important to me because I use the bus on a daily basis to get around. I use many of the different buses but some of the main ones I have used throughout high school are buses 1, 20, 22, 31, 35 the R line. Once my brothers get older they will also have to use the bus.

This bill should be passed because many people rely on the bus system. The less frequent stops from certain buses have made things very inconvenient because it makes it difficult to fully know when your bus is going to come. Bus stops are also not being properly taken care of which makes it hard for people to wait at them because of the unsafe conditions.

This bill is useful because many students need the bus to get to school safely and on time. The elderly and people with disabilities also use the bus a lot to get to many places.

I am in support of the full budgetary funding, including the \$13.8M in the Governor's FY2027 budget to close RIPTA budget deficit, and urge you to support Rep. Alzate's H8256 to increase funding by \$5 million to return RIPTA to September 2025 levels.

I am urging you to pass bill H7127. Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony.

Sincerely,
Chys Santos