



For a thriving New England

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*Via Electronic Mail*

March 10, 2026

The Honorable Terri Cortvriend  
Chair, House Finance Subcommittee on Environment & Transportation  
Room 35, State House  
Providence, RI 02903

Re: CLF **Supports** House Bill No. 7127 – Rhode Island Public Transit Authority  
Budget Allocation

Dear Chair Cortvriend:

The Conservation Law Foundation (“CLF”) appreciates the opportunity to voice our support for House Bill No. 7127, which provides funding for the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (“RIPTA”) budget. We urge you to support the restoration of funding for RIPTA and reverse the service cuts that took place in 2025.

CLF is a member-supported non-profit advocacy organization working to protect public health and the environment and build healthy communities in Rhode Island and throughout New England. CLF supports policies that increase service and ridership on RIPTA’s bus system and help to achieve the greenhouse gas emissions reduction mandates of the Act on Climate.

CLF works alongside several RIPTA transit rider advocacy groups, including the Kennedy Plaza Coalition, the Save RIPTA Coalition, Providence Streets Coalition, Rhode Island Transit Riders, and GrowSmartRI (collectively the “RIPTA Rider Advocates”). CLF and the RIPTA Rider Advocates are supportive of full funding for RIPTA, including the allocation of \$13.8M in the Governor’s FY 2027 budget to close the RIPTA budget deficit.

Crucially, we urge you to support Representative Alzate’s H-8256 to increase funding by \$5M to return RIPTA to September 2025 levels.

It is essential to the health and well-being of all RIPTA riders to reverse the devastating service cuts of 2025. Fully funding RIPTA is an investment that will give many returns, including: providing working-class Rhode Islanders access to reliable and affordable transportation; economic growth and access to jobs and services; reduction in carbon emissions and traffic on the road; and so many more.

We therefore ask that you support House Bill No. 7127 and fully fund RIPTA.



Thank you for your time and consideration of this testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Stang", is written in a cursive style.

Richard Stang  
Senior Attorney  
Conservation Law Foundation

cc: Members of the House Finance Committee  
Darrèll Brown, Vice President, Rhode Island, Conservation Law Foundation