

Trafton testimony in behalf of the Environment Council of Rhode Island supporting H7698 for the House Finance Committee meeting of April 14, 2026.

Dear Chair Abney and Honorable Members of the House Finance Committee,

I'm Peter Trafton from Providence, co-chair of policy for the Environment Council of Rhode Island (ECRI) writing in strong support of 7698 by Rep McEntee and colleagues to create a tax credit for food donations by qualified taxpayers to nonprofit organizations for up to \$5000 per year.

The purpose of this bill is to reduce wasted food that is often discarded into our landfill after caterers have completed their services for a group event. Thus, in addition to providing food for the hungry, it reduces wasteful organic material dumping into our landfill. As you know, we must minimize landfill use to extend its availability as long as possible.

ECRI appreciates and supports the efforts of our colleagues in the Rhode Island Food Policy Council and thus we hope that you will approve this thoughtful approach to changing careless disposal habits in our state. Please support this wise bill, H7698.

Thanks very much for considering my comments in ECRI's behalf.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "PTrafton". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

Peter Trafton