

House Finance Committee  
Rhode Island General Assembly  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
RE: Support H 8144

April 13, 2026

Dear Chairman Abney and Members of the Committee:

I respectfully urge the Committee to adopt H 8144. I am a resident of Scituate, RI and a member of both the Conservation Commission and Secretary of the Scituate Sustainability Committee. There is a critical need for the \$17.5 million in additional conservation funding in the FY 2027 Green Economy Bond. This bill would allow the continued use and development of land trust and conservation properties that not only help create critical wildlife corridors but allow residents to access these properties. In doing so, children and young adults in particular, learn to respect and conserve property to limit rampant development and help curb greenhouse gases in the process.

I support the inclusion of \$17.5 Million to the Green Bond and in particular the \$10 Million for conservation programs. Having worked on local land trust conservation properties (the land trust and conservation commission in Scituate work together and meet together for similar goals) and seen the amount of work, time and especially funding that is required for even a few acres of critical land conservation, additional funding is important now more than ever! In particular the \$3 Million in State Open Space Programs accomplishes multiple goals of land conservation, recreation use and wildlife habitat conservation.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment

Sincerely,

Greg Thuotte  
3 Mary Greene Ln  
Foster, RI 02825

Cc: Representative Robert Quattrocchi