

To: Chairman Marvin Abney, House Finance Committee
From: Elise Torello, South Kingstown
Re: **SUPPORT** House Bill No. **8151**, the Blue Wave Bond
Date: April 13, 2026

Dear Chairman Abney and Members of the Committee,

My name is Elise Torello and I live in South Kingstown. I strongly believe that there is a critical need for \$100 Million in bonds to fund coastal preparedness and resilience projects. Therefore, I **SUPPORT** House Bill 8151.

Our 400+ miles of coastline in Rhode Island is extremely vulnerable to the effects of climate change. In addition, our lands surrounding inland waters are also increasingly vulnerable to recurring flooding. The Blue Wave Bond would fund critical coastal preparedness and resilience projects, including shoreline protection, flood mitigation, stormwater and wastewater upgrades, protection of critical facilities, port and working waterfront resilience, and workforce preparedness and training programs to support resilience-related jobs and infrastructure investments. As we feel the effects of climate change in coming years, these types of projects will be more and more important to protect the lives and livelihoods of Rhode Islanders.

Thank you so much for reading my letter! I am urgently asking that you support H 8151, the \$100 Million Blue Wave Bond.

Best wishes,

Elise Torello
2625D Commodore Perry Hwy
South Kingstown