

Chris O'Brien

From: Andrew Lamson <andrewlamson@gmail.com>
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To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Support for H8317

Categories: Red category

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Dear Chairman Abney and members of the House Finance Committee,

My name is Andrew Lamson. I live in Providence in House District 8. I am supporting a \$5 million allocation to RIPTA and other bills in the legislative package that support RIPTA because I want to save RIPTA. I have been taking the buses for 23 years and it has been helping me get to all my important destinations.

The bus cuts have impacted me a lot, I have to wait longer to get a bus. Before the weekend service was restored, I had to go out of my way to get a ride. It would cost me \$80 to go to work and get back home if I didn't have RIPTA.

RIPTA helps me get to Marshalls in Narragansett for work and to my mom who is at a nursing rehab center in North Kingstown. I meet my stepdad in Wakefield or Narragansett Salt Pond Plaza for my bowling league and to visit friends. I need the bus to go shopping for my food and household items. I take the bus to Warwick to visit my sister and spend time with her. Without RIPTA, I would spend way more on rideshares and not be able to afford to go to work, see family and friends, or live by myself. Thank you for considering my testimony and please save RIPTA for not just me, but also Rhode Island citizens.

Andrew R. Lamson
Providence, Rhode Island