

## Chris O'Brien

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**From:** will masse <willmasse@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 14, 2026 8:57 AM  
**To:** House Finance Committee  
**Cc:** Sen. LaMountain, Matthew L.; Rep. McNamara, Joseph M.  
**Subject:** SUPPORT (H8317) - \$5 million Budget Allocation for RIPTA

**Categories:** Red category

Dear Chair Abney and Honorable Members of the Committee,

My name is William Masse, I live in Warwick, Rhode Island, and I am writing in support of Bill H8317, Representative Alzate's \$5 million allocation to reverse RIPTA's service cuts.

I rely on RIPTA to commute from Warwick to Providence most days using Route 4, and the recent service cuts have made that commute significantly more difficult. Buses run much less frequently now, which means longer wait times and less flexibility. If I miss a bus or it's delayed, I can be stuck waiting a long time for the next one, making it harder to reliably get to work on time. Instead of being able to depend on transit, I have to plan extra time into my day just to account for reduced service.

The service cuts have been devastating for riders like me. They make it harder to access jobs and daily necessities, and they push people toward more expensive or less sustainable options. At a time when fuel costs are rising, this puts additional financial strain on people who are trying to rely on transit. It also runs counter to Rhode Island's Act on Climate goals—we should be making it easier to use public transportation, not harder.

Public transit is critical to Rhode Island's economy, housing, and climate future. Without restoring service, RIPTA cannot meet the needs of current riders or grow to support a more sustainable and accessible transportation system. If we are serious about reducing our reliance on fossil fuels and building a more resilient state, we need a fast, frequent, and reliable transit network.

That's why I'm urging you to support H8317. Without reversing RIPTA's devastating service cuts, RIPTA cannot meet the needs of a growing population that requires affordable and sustainable transportation, and it cannot grow to meet our climate, social justice, and economic goals.

Sincerely,  
William Masse  
Warwick, Rhode Island