



**State of Rhode Island**  
**Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos**

April 29, 2026  
The Hon. Marvin Abney  
Chair, House Finance Committee  
82 Smith Street, Room 35  
Providence, RI 02903

RE: Letter of Support for H7242: An Act Relating To Taxation -- Property Subject To Taxation

Dear Chair Abney:

I write to you in support of H7242: An Act Relating To Taxation -- Property Subject To Taxation. This bill, by extending to small and urban farms the same targeted tax exemptions which are currently available to larger farms, will help us to address food insecurity and create a more sustainable and affordable food ecosystem in our state. With the price of food continuing to rise, it is critical that we do everything in our power to embrace local control of our supply chain and help small, local businesses succeed.

I also support this legislation based on my experience as a City Councilor in Providence, where I represented a dense, urban district. Our urban communities need to be able to access fresh, local, and accessible foods. Empowering small agricultural enterprises within our cities will lead to a more robust food ecosystem that can better provide healthy and affordable food to the communities which most need it.

For these reasons, I urge you to vote this bill favorably out of committee.

Sincerely,

Sabina Matos

Lieutenant Governor, State of Rhode Island  
CC: Representative Michelle McGaw