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### Member Agencies

Blackstone Valley  
Advocacy Center  
Domestic Violence  
Resource Center of  
South County  
Elizabeth Buffum  
Chace Center  
Women's Resource Center

### Task Force

Sisters Overcoming  
Abusive Relationships

### Affiliate Members

Center for Southeast Asians  
Crossroads Rhode Island  
Family Service of Rhode Island  
McAuley Ministries –  
McAuley Village  
Progreso Latino  
YWCA Rhode Island

To: Representative Marvin L. Abney, Chair of the House Finance Committee  
Honorable Members of the House Finance Committee

From: Lucy Rios, Executive Director  
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Date: May 7, 2026

Re: **Support for House Bills 7313 and 8338**

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On behalf of our network of member agencies and SOAR, our taskforce of survivors, the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence appreciates this opportunity to express **our strong support for H. 7313 and H. 8338.**

- H. 7313 - Creates an additional personal income surtax of 3% on taxable income over \$640,000, impacting only the top 1% of taxpayers.

- H. 8338 - Establishes a child tax credit in the amount of \$650 for eligible taxpayers adjusted for inflation annually commencing January 1, 2027.

As federal funding to support families and survivors of domestic violence becomes less reliable, there is a magnified need for greater revenue in Rhode Island to invest in intimate partner violence prevention strategies. Poverty and income inequality are root causes of domestic violence, which has effects on the adults and children in the family. Economic policies that protect safety net programs and provide families with financial resources help ensure that domestic violence survivors are more financially stable and independent, and that their economic situation would not prevent them from being able to care for their families.

H. 7313 would raise much-needed revenue for Rhode Island, including new and desperately needed funding allocated for affordable, reliable, and quality childcare and early learning opportunities for Rhode Island's children. This proposal will have no effect on Rhode Island filers whose taxable income is under \$640,000. This policy intervention would raise \$203 million/year - \$68 million/year more than the surtax included in the Governor's existing budget - which the state could use to address the \$100 million budget gap for FY27, so that no critical safety net programs are threatened.

H. 8338 creates a child tax credit to complement the federal child tax credit, a policy lever that, when expanded under the American Rescue Plan Act, cut child poverty rates in half. Research from The Economic Progress Institute and the Rhode Island Coalition for Children and Families demonstrates that establishing a \$650 child tax credit in Rhode Island would decrease child poverty in our state by 6.28%.<sup>1</sup> Lifting children and families out of poverty eliminates financial stress that puts families at risk of experiencing violence and sets children up for success.

Domestic violence survivors and their families deserve a stable and safe environment, both physically and financially.

Thank you very much for your consideration. We urge you to support H. 7313 and H. 8338.

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<sup>1</sup> The Economic Progress Institute and Rhode Island Coalition for Children and Families. (2026) *The Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit in Rhode Island*. <https://nmd.ny3.cdn.digitaloceanspaces.com/epi/documents/reports/EITC-and-CTC-Policy-Brief-2026.pdf>