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February 14, 2022

Hon. Marvin L. Abney
c/o HouseFinance@rilegislature.gov
Chairman
House Committee on Finance, Room 35
State House
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Support for Article 9; ReBuildRI Tax Credits

Dear Chairman Abney:

BuildRI is a domestic non-profit trade association comprised of four (4) contractor associations (the Labor Relations Division of the RI Chapter of the Associated General Contractors, the New England Mechanical Contractors' Ass'n, the RI Mason Contractors' Ass'n, and the RI and Southeast MA Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors' Ass'n), and seventeen (17) Local Trade Unions comprised of approximately 10,000 local tradesmen and women. On behalf of our organization, I write to strongly **SUPPORT** of the above referred to budget article for the reasons that follow.

This budget article extends the sunset provisions on the Rhode Island Commerce's programs Qualified Jobs tax credit program and the Rebuild Rhode Island tax credit. These programs are usually allocated to larger local construction projects that have a significant economic impact to our state that extends beyond capital improvements. Such projects are the life blood of the union construction industry. Thousands of local skilled union craftsmen and women that depend on a continuation of these projects in order to support their careers and their families are indirectly depending on these incentives. These tools are not only important to them, but to our entire economy also.

Because of collaboration between state government and construction industry during COVID the industry never shut down throughout the pandemic. This resulted in the construction industry and by extension our greater economy to develop economic momentum. Maintaining these incentives will allow momentum for both to continue. Accordingly, for the foregoing reasons we urge you to **SUPPORT** passage of this budget Article. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Gregory A. Mancini'.

Gregory A. Mancini
Executive Director/General Counsel