

## Anabella Mayorga

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**From:** Linc O-O <l.oliver.oneil@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 9, 2025 10:09 PM  
**To:** House Judiciary Committee  
**Subject:** Testimony House Bill No. 5724

To the House Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Lincoln Oliver-O'Neil and I am a resident of Pawtucket, born in raised in Providence, RI. I'm writing in support of House Bill #5724 because no city should rely on prisons and detention centers as a form of economic development.

The beating heart of Central Falls is its diverse immigrant communities. We should feel proud that so many immigrant families have chosen to call Rhode Island home - strengthening our society as parents, business owners, and community members.

Why then, would the State of Rhode Island support a system that targets and detains those same community members with impunity. We've all heard the stories - in this current political climate, immigrant mothers, fathers, friends, coworkers and neighbors have been detained on flimsy evidence. Every detention destabilizes our communities' futures by weakening these critical relationships.

Why then, would the State of Rhode Island allow a symbol and an instrument of immigrant oppression to persist in one of our most vibrant immigrant communities?

We know that folks detained in the Wyatt have limited to no access with their loved ones, and that the racist ridicule they sustain has impacts that linger even if they are ultimately released. We cannot allow our state to participate in this self-harm!

I urge you, members of the committee- take this opportunity to send a message to our immigrant residents that we value their presence and contributions to our communities. Please vote in favor of House Bill 5742!

Thank you,

Lincoln Oliver-O'Neil  
28 Lafayette Street  
Pawtucket, RI 02860