

Chairman Corvese and Honorable Committee members,

My name is Daria Phoebe Brashear; I live in the Edgewood section of Cranston. Today I write to you in support of House Bill 5304.

I do not currently commute to an office, but when I did, I initially had to provide my own transit pass. When my employer began offering transit passes as a benefit it greatly reduced my costs, while also reducing the demand for parking.

While the benefits of saving money while not driving to work are more critical to folks with lower incomes, we can also see with Hasbro's comments about wanting their new headquarters to be accessible by transit that options for getting to work that do not involve driving are important to competitive employers hiring at higher income levels also.

Both as a supporter of good transit and as a rider, I ask you at this critical juncture to support this mechanism for increasing ridership and fare revenue for RIPTA. Stable and consistent funding sources are critical for maintaining and growing transit service, moreso in an uncertain federal funding landscape.

Please support H5304, to increase revenue for RIPTA, to give Rhode Island workers access to affordable transportation options, and to grow transit ridership.

Sincerely,
Daria Phoebe Brashear