

Chair Corvese and Honorable Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of H5304, the Commuter Transportation Benefits Act. In early 2020, my employer ran a pilot program that provided employees with RIPTA passes. When I signed up to participate, I intended to use the pass once per week, in support of reducing carbon emissions by driving my car less. However, only a couple of weeks into January, my car stopped working. My family had one working vehicle, and money was tight. Luckily, I had the RIPTA pass. For three months (until the pandemic started), I was able to get to work, and didn't have to take on additional costs. I was so grateful for that program.

Please support H5304. People from all backgrounds can benefit from this bill, and the more Rhode Islanders who see how easy it can be to take public transportation, the more benefits they and all Rhode Islanders will see - from less traffic, cleaner air, and community connections.

Thank you,
Kelly Metzger