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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Department of Labor and Training

Center General Complex 1511 Pontiac Avenue Cranston, RI 02920-4407

Daniel J. McKee Governor Matthew D. Weldon Director

March 5, 2025

The Honorable Arthur J. Corvese Chair, House Committee on Labor State House Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chair Corvese:

I write today in support of House Bill 5505 and would like to thank the Chair for introducing this important legislation.

Telephone: (401) 462-8000

Via RI Relay 711

TTY:

This measure would provide greater certainty to employees involved in projects that invoke prevailing wage requirements by ensuring that any individual employed for at least ninety (90) days on such a project would be required to be provided with a defined retirement or pension benefit instead of a cash equivalent payment. Providing employees with retirement or pension benefits increases workers' overall compensation and contributes to making sure they are provided with financial security and stability in their retirement years. Bills like this are an important tool in our work to increase Rhode Islanders' incomes.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>matthew.weldon@dlt.ri.gov</u> or (401) 462-8870.

Sincerely,

Matthew D. Weldon

Director

CC: Honorable Members of the House Committee on Labor Nicole McCarty, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House