134 Thurbers Avenue Suite 213 Providence, RI 02905 P: 401-553-2100 F:401-553-5855 www.Buildri.org



March 7, 2024

Hon. Stephen M. Casey Chair House Municipal Government and Housing Committee HouseMunicipalGovernmentandHousing@rilegislature.gov

Re: Support for H-7754; An act authorizing the town of Johnston to issue not to exceed \$40,000,00.00 for the purpose of stormwater management.

Dear Chairman Casey,

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 sixteen (16) Local Trade Unions that make up the Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council representing an approximately 10,000 local tradesmen and women.

On behalf of our organization, I write in SUPPORT of the above referred to legislation for the reasons that follow.

Senate bill 2091, sponsored by Representative Fellela, is necessary to continue Rhode Island's momentum with making the necessary investments into our stormwater management. Over the past couple years, we have witnessed firsthand the negative implications our stormwater management has had on our communities. Excessive rain has caused the erosion of our infrastructure. We need to make these meaningful investments to help mitigate the effects of climate change on our communities. This work will have the added benefit of employing local Rhode Islanders, as well as spur economic development for local construction businesses.

Thank you for your attention to this correspondence. Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Gregory A. Mancini

Executive Director/General Counsel