



# BLACKSTONE VALLEY

## TOURISM COUNCIL

---

Testimony  
House Bill 5361

February 25, 2021

Members of the House Committee:

The Blackstone Valley Tourism Council Inc. is in its 36 year of tourism development for the 9 Blackstone Valley communities of Pawtucket, Central Falls, Woonsocket, Smithfield, North Smithfield, Cumberland, Lincoln, Burrillville and Glocester.

The Tourism Council has had a long relationship with its neighbor East Providence and have collaborated on several projects. The culture, history, recreational amenities, economy and environment of East Providence have a strong relationship with our Blackstone Valley communities.

We look forward to working with East Providence as they work to self-actualize their tourism resources and become a leading part of the tourism economy of the northern reaches of Narragansett Bay and our state of Rhode Island. Whatever help we can offer East Providence is in the best interest of our state and Blackstone Valley region.

We support their initiative and the thoughtful, quality leadership in tourism development that they bring to Rhode Island.

Robert D. Billington, Ed.D. President  
Blackstone Valley Tourism Council Inc.  
Blackstone Valley Visitor Center  
175 Main Street Pawtucket, RI 02860