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March 11, 2025

The Honorable Evan P. Shanley
Chairman
House State Government & Elections
State House
Providence, RI 02903

RE: 2025 H 5729, RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES- MISCELLANEOUS RULES

Dear Chairman, Shanley :

Thank you for the opportunity to allow the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) to respectfully submit this letter of support for H 5729. This bill "Adds grass/grass clippings to the items prohibited from being deposited or blown onto a highway or roadway."

RIDOT strongly supports H 5729. This bill adds grass clippings to the list of items in Section 31-22-9 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-22 entitled Miscellaneous Rules. If enacted, this bill would require landscaping trucks to be more diligent in their transport of landscaping debris, and to take the necessary measures, such as securing and covering landscaping debris, to prevent it from blowing onto the highway, which can create dangerous obstacles and unsightly conditions.

RIDOT spends approximately \$1.5 million annually on trash pick-up. The passage of this bill will greatly reduce trash and other loose materials from being blown onto public roadways. Any actions we can implement to reduce the purge of litter and debris on our roadways will be beneficial to all statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information and for your diligence in reviewing these pieces of legislation. Please let me know if any further information is needed.

Sincerely,

Peter Alviti, Jr., P.E.

Director, Rhode Island Department of Transportation

cc: The Honorable Members of the House State Government & Elections Committee
The Honorable Jacquelyn M. Baginski
Nicole McCarty Esq. Chief Legal Counsel