



**RHODE ISLAND LEAGUE  
OF CITIES AND TOWNS**

*Distinctive Communities  
Powerful Alliance*

April 7, 2026

The Honorable Evan P. Shanley, Chair  
House State Government and Elections  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: HOUSE BILL 7675 – AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT --  
COMPOSTING AND ORGANIC WASTE DIVERSION**

Dear Chair Shanley and Honorable Committee Members,

On behalf of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns and our 39 member municipalities, we write to express our strong support for House Bill 7675, legislation establishing the Compost Fund and Municipal Waste Diversion Grant Fund to promote food waste prevention, composting, and organic waste diversion across the state.

We want to express our gratitude to the bill sponsor and the Rhode Island Food Council for thoughtfully incorporating input from the League and our municipalities into this year's version of the legislation. Of particular importance is the opt-in provision, which allows municipalities to voluntarily join the grant fund program. While the original draft of the bill would have applied a \$2 per ton surcharge on all waste sent to the landfill, the revised language gives municipalities the choice to participate. Those that opt in would be subject to the surcharge, but also gain access to grant funding, giving local governments the ability to balance participation with their individual budgets and priorities. This flexibility makes the program more practical and responsive to municipal needs. In addition, there is the potential for private funding support, which could provide significant resources to help municipalities offset start-up costs, making participation an even more attractive opportunity.

The League looks forward to working collaboratively with the Department of Environmental Management, the Office of the General Treasurer, and our member municipalities to ensure smooth implementation of this program. We appreciate the General Assembly's attention to the critical issue of organic waste diversion and the environmental, economic, and community benefits this legislation will provide to Rhode Island.

Thank you again for your consideration of this legislation and for the opportunity to share the League's perspective.

Sincerely,

Randy R. Rossi  
Executive Director

Cc: Honorable Members of House State Government and Elections