



March 10, 2026

Honorable Robert Britto  
Chairman, Senate Commerce Committee  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

**Re: S2346 - AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - RHODE ISLAND COMMERCE CORPORATION - Support**

Dear Chairman Britto:

On behalf of the Rhode Island Business Leaders Alliance, we write in strong support of Rhode Island Senate Bill S2346, legislation that would establish a targeted tax incentive framework to attract large-scale data center investment to Rhode Island.

Data centers are a critical component of the modern economy. Nearly every industry, including healthcare, finance, advanced manufacturing, higher education, and technology relies on secure and reliable data infrastructure. States across the country are actively competing to attract these facilities because they generate substantial private investment, large-scale construction activity, and long-term economic benefits.

This bill establishes significant minimum investment thresholds, \$200 million in enterprise zones and \$400 million elsewhere, ensuring that only projects delivering meaningful economic impact qualify for the program. Projects of this scale bring hundreds of millions of dollars in private capital into a state's economy and generate significant construction employment during development.

Large data center projects typically require multi-year construction timelines involving engineers, contractors, electricians, skilled trades, and supporting professional services. These projects also generate significant local economic activity through supply chains, construction spending, and infrastructure improvements.

Beyond the initial construction phase, data centers support long-term economic development by strengthening the digital infrastructure that modern businesses depend on. Expanding

high-capacity data infrastructure can make Rhode Island more attractive to technology companies, financial services firms, research institutions, and other innovation-driven industries that rely on fast, secure, and resilient digital networks.

Other states have recognized these benefits and have adopted competitive incentive structures to attract data center investment. Without similar tools, Rhode Island risks losing these large-scale investments, and the jobs and economic activity they generate, to competing jurisdictions.

S2346 provides Rhode Island with a responsible and targeted approach to compete for next-generation infrastructure investment while ensuring that projects meet significant capital investment thresholds before qualifying for incentives.

For these reasons, the Rhode Island Business Leaders Alliance respectfully urges the committee to support S2346.

Thank you for your leadership and your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

**Gregory Tumolo**

Executive Director

Rhode Island Business Leaders Alliance

CC: Members of the Senate Commerce Committee