

My name is Jim Kingston and I reside in Providence. I am writing in SUPPORT of Senate bill 2650.

It is to the benefit of Rhode Island that we encourage as many residents as possible to pursue higher education, or trade schools, and hopefully they would decide to remain in RI after graduation and further contribute to the cultural vibrancy and economy of RI.

While it does not directly relate to this bill, I believe that the premise of the Plyler v Doe landmark case decision should also be a factor. In this decision, it was held that restricting K-12 public education based on immigration status violates our 14th Amendment. To deny some immigrants of enjoying the lower in-state tuition cost vs out-of-state costs violates the spirit of this decision and likely results in fewer immigrants seeking a college education. We should also just Do the Right Thing, as Spike Lee suggests.

I ask that you support this bill and I appreciate your consideration.