

**Trafton testimony in behalf of the Environment Council of Rhode Island supporting S2795  
Senate Environment and Agricultural Committee, April 29, 2026.**

Dear Chair Sosnowski and Honorable Committee Members,

I'm Peter Trafton from Providence, Co-VP of Policy for the Environment Council of Rhode Island (ECRI) writing with our strong support of S2795, the Pesticide Control Act, by Sen. Murray and colleagues.

We join with our colleagues from the Audubon Society of Rhode Island in urging you to pass S2795.

As you know, this bill protects raptors, hunting birds responsible for killing hundreds of rodents every year, from risks of ingesting anticoagulant rodenticides when they eat a rat who has already absorbed some of these poisons. The irony of the story is that the raptors are far more effective at eliminating rats than are the rodenticides. Far more constrained use of such rodenticides will save many of our owls and hawks. And in addition to limiting these rat poisons, the bill provides for willing municipalities to develop scientifically guided rat reduction programs.

We were delighted that last year's version of this bill was passed by your committee and the Senate. ECRI hopes that you will repeat this again and is grateful for your attention to this important measure.

Thanks very much for considering my comments in ECRI's behalf.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Trafton". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Peter Trafton  
Co-VP for Policy  
The Environment Council of Rhode Island