



**State of Rhode Island**  
**Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos**

April 28, 2026  
The Hon. Louis DiPalma  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
82 Smith Street, Room 211  
Providence, RI 02903

RE: Letter of Support for SJR2237: Joint Resolution Making An Appropriation Of \$3,000,000 To The Rhode Island Food Bank

Dear Chair DiPalma:

I write to you in support of SJR2237: Joint Resolution Making An Appropriation Of \$3,000,000 To The Rhode Island Food Bank. This resolution would authorize the appropriation of the sum of \$3,000,000 to the Rhode Island Food Bank.

When the Trump Administration refused to authorize SNAP payments during the federal government shutdown, I saw with my own eyes the devastation it caused to working families across our state. Our office mobilized to share as much information as we could so that residents could be prepared to weather the shutdown with enough food.

Non-profits and other community partners stepped up as well. The Rhode Island Community Food Bank processed thousands of pounds of donated food and handed out the equivalent of thousands of meals to people in need. I am truly grateful for the spirit, integrity, and hard work that organizations like the Rhode Island Community Food Bank had throughout that period. But now is the time for us to step up and provide them with the assistance they need to keep providing this invaluable service to the community.

By authorizing this one-time appropriation of \$3,000,000 to the Food Bank, we have an opportunity to help them recoup expenses incurred during that period of increased need while also opening the door for them to expand their services to have an even greater reach.

Absolutely nobody in this state should be going hungry, and the Rhode Island Community Food Bank ensures that anyone who needs it can access healthy, nutritious food. For this reason, I urge you to vote this resolution favorably out of committee.

Sincerely,

Sabina Matos  
Lieutenant Governor, State of Rhode Island  
CC: Senator Tiara Mack