

April 29, 2026

Dear Senator DiPalma,

I am writing to respectfully urge you to oppose **S.2238**, which proposes a new 3% surtax on high-income earners.

While well-intentioned, this proposal risks undermining Rhode Island's economic competitiveness at a time when we should be focused on growth, stability, and attracting investment.

A significant portion of those impacted are small business owners who file taxes through the personal income tax system. Increasing their tax burden may discourage reinvestment in their businesses, limit job creation, and create added uncertainty around future growth.

We have seen in other states that policies like this can lead to the loss of high-income taxpayers and business activity—ultimately reducing, not increasing, long-term revenue.

Rhode Island's strategy should be clear: retain, grow, and attract businesses. More business activity leads to more jobs and more sustainable tax revenue for the state.

I respectfully ask that you oppose S.2238 and instead support policies that strengthen Rhode Island's competitiveness and long-term economic health.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jaclyn Leibl-Cote
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