

Jamie Plume

From: Carol Wilcox <c.wil@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2026 1:13 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: S2238

You don't often get email from c.wil@cox.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

I'm writing to urge you to vote in favor of this sensible bill for our state.

These are incredibly difficult times for average wage earners . Gas prices and food prices and utility prices are causing great hardship.

We need to make life easier for everyone in our state and this is a common sense way to do it. It's been done other places with good outcomes.

When life is better for the average person, life is better for everyone.

Thank you for your support of this bill.

Carol Wilcox
Hearts of Social Justice
Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Jamie Plume

From: Ella Kotner <ellaekotner@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2026 2:36 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Testimony FOR S2238

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my support for S2238 -- a 3% personal income tax on the wealthiest 1% of Rhode Islanders. It is beyond time that the wealthiest people in our state pay their fair share of taxes. In a state that is always struggle to pay for basic necessities -- roads and bridges, waste management, conservation, etc --this seems like a no brainer way to work towards economic equality and pay for essential, high quality services that the state should be providing for its residents. I urge you to do the right thing and pass this bill.

Best,
Ella Kilpatrick Kotner
Providence, RI

Jamie Plume

From: gerritt@mindspring.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2026 3:24 PM
To: Senate Finance
Cc: Greg Gerritt
Subject: Testimony in support of S2238

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I have been studying the RI economy and economic development practices for about 30 years and have sat through numerous hearings on the various aspects of economic development and done much research. We are constantly told by the wealthy that cutting taxes on the rich is good for the economy, but the advocates of low taxes on the rich have never produced a real study showing that to be true. I have looked extensively and never seen a peer reviewed study demonstrating low taxes on the rich are a good thing for the economy, and this viewpoint is backed up by the history of 20th century recessions in the USA when taxes on the rich were lowered. 9 of the last 10 recessions are associated with tax cuts for the rich. And there is no evidence that tax cuts spur extra investment in business productivity, mostly it spurs consumption by the rich, greater inequality, and hard times for most of the community. While raising taxes on the rich spurs them to invest more in actual productivity so that it becomes a deductible investment.

The rich run a powerful publicity campaign to protect their money from taxation, but time and again they have not used the money saved in tax cuts to create more jobs in our communities. I have written extensively on this topic over the years. These two essays from 7 and 12 years ago contain many links to the actual research so that you can see that what I have written to you is true. I also ask that you question people opposing the millionaires tax for their sources and note carefully that nearly all of them are fluff pieces written by PR folks and paid shills rather than actual academic and research economists.

I therefore encourage this committee and all Senators to support S 2238 and tax more properly the wealthiest Rhode Islanders.

Business Climate Mania 2014 <https://prosperityforri.com/about-us/f/business-climate-mania-2014>
Business Climate or Real Climate 2019 <https://prosperityforri.com/about-us/f/business-climate-or-real-climate-2019>

Greg Gerritt Providence RI

Jamie Plume

From: Deborah Hoff <deb_hoff@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2026 1:13 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Tax Legislation hearing

You don't often get email from deb_hoff@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Senators, I just heard you are meeting today to consider bills that both increase taxes on the rich, and a few that seek to eliminate or lower taxes.

Since our state is in dire straits already and teetering on the brink of disasters on many fronts (infrastructure, healthcare, food and healthcare supplement to those in need, etc etc) , I urge you to pass legislation that taxes the rich!! Tax the Top 1% S2238 would be great, although I thought there was another version that would include more people and net us more money. If that is still available of course I would support that more. Since these same rich people have gotten so many tax breaks from the GOP lately, it only makes sense to balance that out in this way. And unconscionable for you NOT to support it! Fairness is sorely lacking in modern living, please proceed with this improvement. I hope it will be targeted for sane priorities, and not wasted on anything frivolous (ex. Consultant fees about what to do with the money!).

And please bypass the 3 bills that seek to eliminate or lower taxes - this seems like a bad joke in these times, though I am sure no one is laughing.

Thank you for your work and service to the community and much needed greater good. We are counting on you to use this vital opportunity to improve the budget and share the burden with those that can most afford that, vs. the least able.

Deborah Hoff
85 Sylvia Ave
North Providence 02911

Jamie Plume

From: Heidi LaVine <hleelav@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2026 9:59 AM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: S-2238 Testimony

You don't often get email from hleelav@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Heidi LaVine, I live in Providence, and I am writing in strong support of S-2238, Senator Murray's proposal to tax the Top 1%. S-2238 would raise \$203 million per year for Rhode Island by creating a 3% tax on income OVER \$640,000/year (the top 1% of income earners in the state). S-2238 would raise \$68 million more per year than the Governor's proposed "millionaires tax" (which would only raise \$135 million per year).

In July 2025, the federal government cut trillions of dollars in funding for healthcare and SNAP to give tax breaks to the wealthiest sector of our society, and it is only fair that we recapture some of that revenue for Rhode Island. S-2238 would only affect 6,100 households, while providing \$203 million per year that the state could invest in healthcare, food assistance, refugee and immigrant services, affordable childcare, public education, public transportation, and senior services that families and businesses need to thrive. Because of federal cuts, Rhode Island will lose more than \$275 million per year in federal Medicaid funding beginning in FY2028. Rhode Island needs this revenue to prevent a healthcare sector crisis, and so I urge you to pass S-2238.

Additionally, I strongly oppose any attempts to weaken or eliminate the estate tax (which raises almost \$100 million per year in revenue that our communities need). I also strongly oppose any attempts to eliminate taxes on Social Security income (which raises \$60 million per year in revenue that we need), because seniors earning less than \$107,000 per year are already exempt from these Social Security income taxes. Both of these proposals would primarily benefit the most affluent 20% of Rhode Islanders.

With thanks and best wishes,

Heidi LaVine

Jamie Plume

From: Mary Harrison <harrisonmary210@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2026 7:55 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Support of S-2238

You don't often get email from harrisonmary210@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

My name is Mary Harrison. I live in Cranston and I am testifying in strong support of S-2238, Sen. Murray's proposal to tax the Top 1%. S-2238 would raise \$203 million/year for RI by creating a 3% tax on income OVER \$640,000/year (the top 1% of income earners in the state). S-2238 would raise \$68 million more/year than the Governor's proposed millionaires tax (which would only raise \$135 million/year).

In July 2025, the federal government cut trillions of dollars in funding for healthcare and SNAP to give tax breaks to the rich, and it is only fair that we recapture some of that revenue for Rhode Island. S-2238 would only affect 6,100 households, while providing \$203 million/year that the state could invest in healthcare, food assistance, affordable childcare, public education, public transportation, and senior services that families and businesses need to thrive. Because of federal cuts, RI will lose more than \$275 million/year in federal Medicaid funding beginning in FY2028 – RI needs this revenue to prevent a healthcare sector crisis. I urge you to pass S-2238.

Additionally, I strongly oppose any attempts to weaken or eliminate the estate tax (which raises almost \$100 million/year in revenue that we need). I also strongly oppose any attempts to eliminate tax on social security income (which raises \$60 million/year in revenue that we need), because seniors earning less than \$107,000 a year already don't have to pay taxes on their social security income. Both of these proposals would primarily benefit the richest 20% of Rhode Islanders.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Harrison
136 Garden City Drive
Cranston, RI 02920

Jamie Plume

From: Casby Harrison <casby@casbyharrison.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2026 5:06 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Tax the Rich

You don't often get email from casby@casbyharrison.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

My name is Casby Harrison III. I live in Cranston, RI, and I am testifying in strong support of S-2238, Sen. Murray's proposal to tax the Top 1%.

S-2238 would raise \$203 million/year for RI by creating a 3% tax on income OVER \$640,000/year (the top 1% of income earners in the state).

S-2238 would raise \$68 million more/year than the Governor's proposed millionaires tax (which would only raise \$135 million/year).

In July 2025, the federal government cut trillions of dollars in funding for healthcare and SNAP to give tax breaks to the rich, and it is only fair that we recapture some of that revenue for Rhode Island. S-2238 would only affect 6,100 households, while providing \$203 million/year that the state could invest in healthcare, food assistance, affordable childcare, public education, public transportation, and senior services that families and businesses need to thrive. Because of federal cuts, RI will lose more than \$275 million/year in federal Medicaid funding beginning in FY2028 – RI needs this revenue to prevent a healthcare sector crisis. I urge you to pass S-2238.

Additionally, I strongly oppose any attempts to weaken or eliminate the estate tax (which raises almost \$100 million/year in revenue that we need). I also strongly oppose any attempts to eliminate tax on social security income (which raises \$60 million/year in revenue that we need), because seniors earning less than \$107,000/year are already don't have to pay taxes on their social security income. Both of these proposals would primarily benefit the richest 20% of Rhode Islanders.

Respectfully submitted

/s/ Casby Harrison III

Jamie Plume

From: Marie Hennedy <mhennedy2@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2026 2:05 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: FOR Taxing the Top 1%

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Dear RI LEGISLATORS,

- Federal cuts to Poor Americans' Medicare in order to subsidize our Wealthiest Americans' Tax Cuts will cost Rhode Island roughly \$250,000 this year.
- Raising taxes on RI's top 1% will return roughly \$200,000/year.
- Taxing RI's Top 1% is thus the least we can do to try to live here honorably.

Thank you for considering my opinion.

Marie C. Hennedy, PhD.
11 Shenandoah Road
Warwick, RI 02886

Jamie Plume

From: Cam Blain <cblain@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2026 6:45 AM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Testimony in support of S2238: Wealth Proceeds Tax

Testimony in support of S2238: Wealth Proceeds Tax

Camille Nixon

Warren, RI 02885

Date of Hearing: April 30, 2026

To Chair DiPalma and the honorable Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I agree with my friend, Hans Scholl, who writes the following:

"I support the bill because it would impose a wealth proceeds tax equal to four percent (4%) on net investment income, such as interest, dividends, annuities, royalties, capital gains and rental income, of high-income households, estates and trusts.

This would provide additional income to compensate for programs and funds that were cut by the current federal administration. Loss of these programs and funds is creating existential hardships for many Rhode Islanders in the lowest income groups, while those with the highest wealth benefit from the federal tax breaks.

Please bring the bill to a vote in 2026.

Thank you very much for considering my input, and thank you to Senator Kallman for introducing this important bill."

Thank you for helping to equalize the funding of important programs by those who are endowed for those who are in need. It used to be that we were all taxed on our ability to pay. Now, it seems that the wealthy have changed that system to hoarding for themselves thanks to the Federal Citizens' United legislation which allows the wealthy to, essentially, buy elections. Each state, then, has to shoulder the burden. It is unfair, but, until we eliminate Citizens' United, we will have to step up to the plate to protect all of our RI citizens' wellbeing.

Best wishes,

Best wishes,

Camille Nixon

Warren, RI 02885

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