

April 30, 2026

Dear Chair DiPalma and members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing in support of the 1% wealth tax bill (S2361) on Rhode Islanders' worldwide intangible assets and the 3% surtax bill (S2238) on taxable income over 640K.

Income inequality is a huge issue in our country and is only getting worse. Ensuring that everyone pays their fair share in taxes just makes sense. The revenue from these bills could help address so many of the hardships facing our communities, including access to healthy food, healthcare, safe housing, gas, and child care. Making it easier for people to meet these essential needs will help build an essential safety net in Rhode Island and save money in the long run by helping people live healthier, more productive lives.

I am fortunate not to worry about how I will put food on the table or take care of my family. I am happy to pay my fair share of taxes to improve quality of life for everyone in our state, and know many others feel the same.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sophie Wendelken

Cranston, RI