



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

May 19, 2026

The Honorable Louis DiPalma  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
82 Smith St  
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Letter of Support for S2555: An Act Relating To Education -- The Support And Access To Bilingual Education Act

Dear Chair DiPalma:

I write to you in support of S2555: An Act Relating To Education -- The Support And Access To Bilingual Education Act. This bill appropriates nine hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$950,000) to establish a bilingual education support fund within the department of elementary and secondary education and provides for implementation of support and access to bilingual education.

As someone who learned English in public school, I recognize the importance of creating strong, consistent pathways for people to expand their language skills in this country. S2555 does just that by setting aside funding to not only expand dual-language programs, but also to support more teaching certifications for bilingual dual language and world language teachers.

For these reasons, I urge you to vote this bill favorably out of committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sabina Matos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sabina Matos

Rhode Island Lieutenant Governor

CC: Senator Mark McKenney