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**From:** Alex Diaz-Papkovich <alex.diazpapkovich@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 2, 2026 11:03 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance  
**Subject:** SUPPORT (S2825) - \$5 million Budget Allocation for RIPTA

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Dear Chair DiPalma and Committee members,

My name is Alex Diaz-Papkovich, I live in Providence, and I am writing in support of S2825, Sen. McKenney's \$5 million allocation to reverse RIPTA's service cuts.

**Public transit is critical to all of our goals in Rhode Island:** economic growth, reducing the cost of living, preserving the environment, reducing traffic, improving public safety, and more. Although my household owns a car, my partner doesn't drive and we prefer to instead walk, cycle, or take the bus. The cuts to RIPTA would make this much harder by putting more cars on the road (making it more dangerous and less pleasant to get around) and by limiting our options. On top of that, gas is now at \$4/gallon, making driving more expensive.

My partner also uses RIPTA to get to appointments when I'm not available. With the cuts to bus routes, she's forced to rely on Uber or Lyft instead, which can cost \$50-100 each month, and again adding to the city's traffic problems.

These reasons are why I'm urging you to support S2825.

Sincerely,  
Alex Diaz-Papkovich  
146 Prospect Street, Providence, RI