

Marygrace Heywood Larocque

From: Traci P <tracipicard@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2026 11:39 AM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: SUPPORT (S2825) - \$5 million Budget Allocation for RIPTA

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

Dear Chair DiPalma of the Senate and Honorable Members of the Committee,

Greetings.

I am writing to express support for S2825, the bill to reverse transit cuts and fully fund RIPTA. I am a longtime, frequent transit rider, and have been affected by the cuts, as have my three young adult children. We are finding it more difficult to get to and from work, school, social events and personal care appointments, such as doctors.

However, I speak to you not just on my own behalf, but to share the hardship I have witnessed throughout the community. Access to transit makes a real difference in people's lives. Transit can help solve problems, from housing to jobs, education to drunk and impaired driving. Transit helps people of all ages and across all backgrounds. Transit reduces traffic. And it helps our environment.

Watching students, the elderly and working people standing out in the cold or heat for an hour waiting, or being passed by due to a full bus, hurts my heart. I invite you, and all lawmakers, to observe the transit situation for yourselves, and to gain a deeper understanding of the value of transit in my life, and the lives of our shared Rhode Island community.

Please support S2825, fully fund RIPTA, and support and expand transit across Rhode Island. A healthy transit system is foundational for Providence, and the entire state. Help us all thrive, and fund RIPTA!

Have a great day, and thank you for considering my testimony today.

Traci Picard
Providence resident