

May 4, 2026

Regarding: **Support for S-2828**

Dear Chairperson DiPalma and Members of the Senate Committee on Finance:

I am a Providence resident concerned about the rights and opportunities of immigrants in the state of Rhode Island. Recent violations by ICE and CBP agents have made me more aware of the difficulties faced by many immigrant families . Many of our immigrant neighbors are working - supporting our local economies and paying taxes - while following the rules to obtain citizenship. A good government and its citizens should do what we can to support them.

S2828 , the Amendment to RI Works program, would allow lawful permanent residents to receive benefits without a five-year waiting period. This is the reasonable and decent thing to do. We in Rhode Island should support all workers and families so that they can become productive members of our communities, sooner rather than later.

I urge you to support and vote for S2828.

Sincerely,

Sheila O'Connell

Providence, RI