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**From:** Susan Marcus <marcus.susan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 31, 2026 11:32 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance  
**Subject:** SUPPORT (S3013) - Car Inspection Fee Increase

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Dear Chair DiPalma and Honorable Committee members,

My name is Susan Marcus. I live in South Kingstown. I am writing in support of Bill S3013.

I am retired from a career in economic development in an international organization. I would like to see Rhode Island legislators take advantage of the economic opportunities afforded by investing sustainably in public transit, something they currently neglect. Public transit provides direct financial relief to American families. After housing, transportation is the second-largest household expenditure. A staggering large percentage of this spending goes toward buying, maintaining, and operating personal vehicles. Public transportation offers powerful relief from this financial pressure. Households with access to reliable public transit are free to spend the savings on other essential needs and discretionary spending. This bill would provide funding to more equitable stimulus that can support local economic development.

It has been over 10 years since regular gas-powered car inspection fees were increased in Rhode Island, while we have added much higher taxes and fees to electric vehicles. We need to ensure we are not disproportionately allowing increases on some and not equitably across the board. We see our state struggling to provide an accessible public transit system and also our small businesses struggling financially, which both are great contributors to Rhode Island's economic successes. This bill will ensure both have more funding to ensure a better pathway to a more prosperous future.

As a transit rider and supporter, I am relying on you to support this simple solution for increasing revenue and ridership for RIPTA. Securing new and diverse funding streams that do not rely on the federal government or declining gas tax revenue will not only achieve financial stability, but allow for the expansion of service to meet the needs of a growing population that requires access to the affordable and sustainable travel option that public transit provides.

I urge you to support Senator Vargas' S3013, to increase revenue for RIPTA, while also helping the businesses receive an increase so that they can afford to perform inspections. This gives Rhode Island residents access to affordable transportation and provides sustainable funding for public transit to thrive.

Sincerely,

Susan Marcus  
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Wakefield, RI 02879

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<http://meadowrestoration.wordpress.com>