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**From:** will masse <willmasse@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 2, 2026 9:35 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance  
**Cc:** Sen. LaMountain, Matthew L.; Rep. McNamara, Joseph M.  
**Subject:** SUPPORT (S3013) - Car Inspection Fee Increase

Dear Chair DiPalma and Honorable Members of the Committee,

My name is William Masse, I live in Warwick, Rhode Island, and I am writing in support of Bill S3013.

I rely on RIPTA to get to work most days, using Route 4, and the recent service cuts have made my commute more difficult and less reliable. With buses running less frequently, I often have to wait longer and build extra time into my day just to make sure I arrive at work on time. When service is reduced like this, it limits my flexibility and makes it harder to depend on public transportation as a consistent option.

While I personally rely on the bus, my wife owns an electric vehicle. We are already paying higher fees associated with owning an EV, and at the same time, bus service has gotten worse. That combination feels backwards—it ends up incentivizing people to rely more on gas-powered cars instead of supporting cleaner and more sustainable transportation options like public transit and electric vehicles.

It has been over 10 years since car inspection fees were last increased in Rhode Island. This bill takes a reasonable and balanced approach by modestly increasing inspection fees, while also supporting small businesses by increasing the share that inspection station owners receive for performing inspections.

At the same time, this bill provides a dedicated and sustainable funding stream for RIPTA, with a portion of the increased fee going directly to public transit. As a rider, I see firsthand how important it is for RIPTA to have reliable funding. Without it, service cuts continue, making it harder for people like me to get to work and pushing more people toward driving at a time when fuel costs are rising and Rhode Island is working to meet its Act on Climate goals.

Investing in public transit benefits the entire state. It supports workers, reduces congestion, helps small businesses, and provides an affordable transportation option for those who need it most. Creating new funding sources like this—rather than relying on declining gas tax revenue—is critical to building a system that is reliable, frequent, and sustainable.

I urge you to support S3013 to increase revenue for RIPTA while also supporting local businesses, and to ensure that Rhode Island residents have access to affordable and dependable public transportation.

Sincerely,  
William Masse  
Warwick, Rhode Island