

April 7, 2026

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on
Artificial Intelligence & Emerging Technology
State House
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

**RE: S 2198 – JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE
COMMISSION TO STUDY BLOCKCHAIN AND CRYPTOCURRENCY**

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Andrew Begin. I live in, Rhode Island and work in financial technology. I build software that helps banks and financial institutions work with Bitcoin and digital assets. I'm writing today in support of S 2198.

Money is going through a digital transformation. Banks are starting to custody Bitcoin, and Stablecoins are being used for faster payments. The federal government is actively working on regulatory frameworks for digital assets.

Clear rules benefit everyone. They help consumers know they're protected. They help small businesses know what's allowed. They help banks understand how to offer new services without running into regulatory uncertainty. And they help the state attract economic activity that's currently going elsewhere.

I work with banks every day that want to do something with digital assets but don't know where to start because the rules aren't clear. For the past decade, crypto-native companies have reaped the benefits of new monetary technology, while our community banks have been told not to participate. A commission like this is the first step toward changing that. It's low cost, it brings in the right expertise, and it gives the General Assembly a foundation of real information to work from.

I strongly urge the committee to support S 2198.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I'm happy to answer any questions or provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Andrew Begin
North Kingstown, Rhode Island

cc: Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on AI & Emerging Technology
Senators DiPalma, Gu, Burke, Urso, Paolino, and Zurier