

Marthe Dusabe
503 Elmwood Ave.
Providence, RI
02907

April 3, 2024

Chairman Marvin Abney
House Finance Committee
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903

Re: House Bill 7684 | Senate Bill 2335- At the Southside Community Land Trust we work with a network of 35 small and urban farmers and more than 400 community gardeners. These farmers and gardeners are often BIPOC, immigrants with English as their second language and immense expertise in growing and distributing fresh food. A number of these farmers took some time out of their farming to share some words about what it would mean to them to see this bill passed.

I'm writing because I live in Providence and I have been farming in RI since 2015. I farm because it helps me to eat healthy and sell to make income. The food I grow goes to my family and friends. Tax relief will help my business grow. I can use that money for more space to grow and to buy supplies for more gardening.

This is important to me because it will help me save money to put back into growing my business.

In order to continue doing this work, I am asking you to please help pass **House Bill 7684 / Senate Bill 2335** which would make tax relief programs available for small and urban farms. The **Small and Urban Farms Success Act** to ensure that I maintain a livelihood and Rhode Islander's have access to food.

Signed, Marthe Dusabe



Name

Good Earth: Group of African Unity

Farm Business Name