

Seraphina Mukagatore
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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.

We are writing because we live in Providence and have been farming in RI since 2009. We farm to help my family and neighbors. Tax relief will help me save money. We can use that money towards my family and my business.

This is important to us because we need to keep our food for our community.

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,



Name

Seraphina Mukagatore