



RHODE ISLAND COMMUNITY
FOOD BANK

April 9, 2024

The Honorable Marvin L. Abney

Rhode Island House Committee on Finance

RE: House Bill 7995; Support of Tax Credit for Food Donation

Dear Chair Abney and members of the Finance Committee:

As the CEO of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank, I am pleased to support Representative McEntee's bill 7995, which will create a state tax credit for food donations.

The tax credit will provide an added incentive for Rhode Island businesses and growers to donate their products to help those in need of food assistance. Due to the rapid rise in food prices over the past two years, more and more households can't afford to purchase adequate food and are at risk of hunger. Currently, 80,000 Rhode Islanders are served each month through the Food Bank's statewide network of 143 member agencies.

The Food Bank will distribute more than 18 million pounds of food this year. Close to one-third is donated by food retailers, manufacturers, distributors, and farmers. The tax credit will encourage more businesses and growers to donate, adding to the state's nutrition safety net.

The tax credit will support local food donors and help our neighbors in need. It's a win-win.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Schiff". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Andrew Schiff
CEO