



April 11, 2024

Honorable Marvin Abney
Chairman, House Finance Committee
State House
Providence, RI 02903

RE: H.7680, An Act Relating to Taxation – Estate and Transfer Taxes – Liability and Computation

Dear Chairman Abney and Committee Members,

The undersigned members of the Rhode Island Business Coalition would like to express our support for H.7680, An Act Relating to Taxation – Estate and Transfer Taxes – Liability and Computation.

H.7680 increase the estate tax threshold by ten percent each year until it is equal to the federal rate – currently at \$16.3 million for an individual. Even if the rate sunsets, as is possible, the federal rate will then adjust to \$7 million, still far greater than the Rhode Island exemption amount of almost \$1.8 million.

Financial planners tell clients every day not to die in Rhode Island based on the estate and transfer tax. We believe it would be more advantageous to encourage older individuals to keep their residency in Rhode Island, spend their discretionary income here for more than 5.9 months a year, and allow their heirs to transfer assets without burdensome taxes after their loved ones have passed.

For these reasons, we support the passage of H.7680. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Associated Builders and Contractors
East Greenwich Chamber of Commerce
National Federation of Independent Business
Rhode Island Bankers Association
Rhode Island Beverage Association
Rhode Island Business Group on Health
Rhode Island Manufacturers Association
Rhode Island Small Business Economic Summit Regulations Committee
Rhode Island Small Business Economic Summit Tax and Budget Committee
Rhode Island Society of Certified Public Accountants
Rhode Island Staffing Association
Sustainable Benefits Strategies, LLC

The Rhode Island Business Coalition represents 50 industries and 6,280 businesses that employ 231,200 people throughout Rhode Island.