



Testimony before the House Finance Committee

May 14, 2024

RE: In Support of H-7678 – Rideshare Vehicle Surcharge

Dear Chair Abney and Members of the House Finance Committee:

On behalf of RI Transit Riders, I am writing to support House Bill 7678,

This legislation will support improved public transportation and the sidewalks that enable bus passengers to walk to and from bus stops. It will also benefit pedestrians, including school children, as they walk through our neighborhoods. Thanks to Representative David Morales for introducing this funding proposal.

As more and more people work from home and there are more electric cars on the road, RIPTA cannot continue to rely on revenue from the gas tax to fund its operations. We need new sources of funding, including the revenue that would be generated by this proposal.

Sincerely,

*Patricia Raub*

Patricia Raub

Co-chair, RI Transit Riders