

**2025 -- H 6104**

=====  
LC001828  
=====

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025**

---

**H O U S E   R E S O L U T I O N**

**PROCLAIMING MARCH 18, 2025, TO BE "TRANSIT EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DAY"  
IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives Morales, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Cruz,  
Furtado, Potter, McNamara, Diaz, and Batista

Date Introduced: March 18, 2025

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, In 2022, approximately 6.19 billion public transportation rides occurred in  
2 the United States. It is estimated that approximately eight percent of the United States population,  
3 twenty-eight million people, are public transportation dependent; and

4           WHEREAS, Across the United States, it is estimated that 399,316 hard-working  
5 Americans work in the public transportation industry. Each day they strive tirelessly to ensure  
6 that their riders are picked up and dropped off promptly at their intended destination, be it for  
7 work, doctor's offices or any other number of destinations such as the beach in the summertime,  
8 and these fine professionals ensure that they arrive safely; and

9           WHEREAS, Public transportation workers secure safe rides for many passengers with  
10 disabilities, older adults, minors and students attending college. They work in all weather  
11 conditions and remained on the job during the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic healthcare  
12 issues; and

13           WHEREAS, It is estimated that every \$1 billion dollars invested in American public  
14 transportation yields 5 billion dollars in additional economic impact, including the creation of  
15 18,000 new jobs. In addition, public transportation is certainly one of the weapons that will be an  
16 essential component in the fight to mitigate global warming and its devastating impact on planet  
17 Earth; and

18           WHEREAS, In Rhode Island, the Rhode Island Public Transportation Authority (RIPTA)  
19 was created in 1966, and since then it has provided public transportation services for the past 59

1 years to countless Rhode Islanders. RIPTA operates seven days a week and operates 2,700 daily  
2 trips on more than 58 statewide-fixed bus routes. RIPTA also operates ADA Paratransit services  
3 statewide, and provides Park N Ride Service at 32 sites across Rhode Island. RIPTA employs 896  
4 hard-working employees, maintains a fleet of 230 fixed-route buses, 96 paratransit buses, and 20  
5 flex vans, and operated 8,828,247 fixed-route vehicle miles in 2024; now, therefore be it

6           RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
7 proclaims March 18, 2025, to be “Transit Employee Appreciation Day” in the State of Rhode  
8 Island; and be it further

9           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
10 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Christopher Durand, Chief Executive Officer,  
11 Rhode Island Public Transit Authority.

=====  
LC001828  
=====