

Top 20 Wins that Promote Progress and Equity for Rhode Islanders

- 1 Millionaires Tax:** Rhode Island moves towards tax justice by creating a millionaires tax, phased in over three years, that will raise approximately \$166 million annually once fully implemented.
 COALITION: Revenue for Rhode Islanders Coalition (EPI serves on the Steering Committee)
 CHAMPIONS: Rep. Alzate and Sen. Murray
- 2 New Child Tax Credit:** Reduces child poverty by establishing Rhode Island's first permanent refundable state Child Tax Credit (CTC) of \$330 per child that will phase out at \$88,500 for single-filers and \$110,640 for joint-filers.
 COALITIONS: Workforce Alliance (co-chaired by EPI and United Way of Rhode Island); Right from the Start Coalition (EPI serves on the Steering Committee); Rhode Island Coalition for Children and Families
 CHAMPIONS: Rep. Tanzi and Sen. Vargas
- 3 Decoupling:** Proposals to decouple Rhode Island from three federal tax provisions, one proposed by the Governor and two additional provisions promoted by EPI, were included in the enacted budget, saving at least \$23.6 million in FY2026 and FY2027.
- 4 Social Security Taxation:** Removes the age restriction from existing tax exemptions that had previously prevented low-income Rhode Islanders from using the exemption below the full retirement age.
 ORGANIZATION: AARP RI

DEFENSIVE WINS: Proposals that EPI opposed because they would have collectively reduced state revenue by nearly half a billion dollars annually. These proposals did not advance this year.

Estate Tax	Corporate Minimum Tax	Data Center Tax Incentives	Social Security
Efforts to weaken or repeal the estate tax	Repeal of the corporate minimum tax	Creation of a 30-year tax credit for data centers	A proposal to eliminate taxes on Social Security income for seniors earning more than \$107,000 annually

- 5 Deportation Protection:** Protects Rhode Islanders from deportation for minor offenses by decreasing the maximum penalty for a misdemeanor from 365 to 364 days of incarceration.
 COALITION: Immigrant Coalition of RI (EPI serves on the Policy Committee)
 CHAMPIONS: Rep. Felix and Sen. Acosta
- 6 Protect Our Courts Act:** Protects Rhode Islanders attending court proceedings from civil arrest without a judicial warrant.
 COALITION: Immigrant Coalition of RI (EPI serves on the Policy Committee)
 CHAMPIONS: Rep. Batista and Sen. Kallman

REVENUE & TAX FAIRNESS

EQUITY & DEMOCRACY

- 7 RI Federal Constitution Defense Act:** Protects Rhode Islanders by permitting them to sue federal officials, like ICE, who violate someone's federal constitutional rights in RI.
COALITIONS: Lawyers' Committee for Rhode Island (EPI's ED serves on the Coordinating Committee) and Immigrant Coalition of RI (EPI serves on the Policy Committee)
CHAMPIONS: Rep. Potter and Sen. Ciccone
- 8 RI Fully Funds RI Public Transit Authority (RIPTA):** The FY2027 budget fully funds RIPTA and increases its share of the Highway Maintenance Fund from 10% to 25%. However, it did not receive enough funding to reverse 2025 service cuts.
COALITION: Save RIPTA Coalition (EPI is a member)
CHAMPIONS: Rep. Cortvriend and Sen. Zurier
- 9 Funding for Multilingual Learners:** Supports students, teachers, and the economy by investing \$750,000 for multilingual teacher certifications and dual language programs across the state.
COALITIONS: Coalition for Multilingual Learners (EPI is a member) and the Workforce Alliance (co-chaired by EPI and United Way of Rhode Island)
CHAMPIONS: Rep. Morales and Sen. McKenney
- 10 More Money for RI Works Families:** Better support families by increasing the child support pass-through for Rhode Island Works from \$50 to \$100 for one child and \$200 for two or more children.
COALITION: Raising RI Coalition (co-led by EPI and RI Kids Count)
CHAMPIONS: Rep. Handy and Sen. Murray
- 11 Nutrition Assistance:** Reduces food insecurity in the wake of federal cuts to food assistance by allocating \$2.95 million to the RI Community Food Bank.
ORGANIZATION: RI Community Food Bank
CHAMPIONS: Rep. Slater and Sen. Mack
- 12 Healthcare Subsidies:** Lowers healthcare costs for 20,000 Rhode Islanders by partially replacing federal Affordable Care Act subsidies that expired in 2025. The state will replace subsidies for people earning up to 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL) to help them purchase health insurance through HealthSourceRI.
COALITION: Protect Our Healthcare Coalition (co-chaired by EPI and RIPIN)
CHAMPIONS: Rep. Speakman and Sen. Lauria
- 13 Funding for Uncompensated Healthcare:** Provides \$26 million in funding for hospitals to provide uncompensated care in the wake of federal funding cuts.
COALITION: Protect Our Healthcare Coalition (co-chaired by EPI and RIPIN)
CHAMPIONS: Rep. Donovan and Sen. DiPalma
- 14 Increase Medicaid Reimbursement Rates:** Ensures that we can keep providers in the state by fully funding the rate recommendations of the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner based on its FY2026 rate review.
COALITIONS: Protect Our Healthcare Coalition (co-chaired by EPI and RIPIN) and Right from the Start Coalition (EPI serves on the Steering Committee)

- 15 Expand Access to Child Care Assistance Program:** Helps more families afford child care by increasing income eligibility for the Child Care Assistance Program from 261% FPL to 285% FPL and increasing the income phase out threshold for the program from 300% to 325% FPL beginning in 2027.
COALITION: Right from the Start Coalition (EPI serves on the Steering Committee)
CHAMPIONS: Rep. Diaz and Sen. Vargas
- 16 Child Care for Child Care Providers:** Helps child care providers stay in the workforce by extending the successful pilot program that offers child care assistance for child care providers through July 2030.
COALITION: Right from the Start Coalition (EPI serves on the Steering Committee)
CHAMPIONS: Rep. Diaz and Sen. DiMario
- 17 Improve Pay for Child Care Providers:** Helps workers and businesses make ends meet by increasing the infant reimbursement rates for center-based child care providers by 5%.
COALITION: Right from the Start Coalition (EPI serves on the Steering Committee)
CHAMPIONS: Rep. Diaz and Sen. Vargas
- 18 Maternal Infant & Early Childhood (MIECHV) Home Visiting Match:** Strengthens services for pregnant women and families with young children by providing an additional \$377,000 (for a total of \$787,000) for MIECHV, maximizing the federal MIECHV match and securing an additional \$2.4 million in federal funds.
COALITION: Right from the Start Coalition (EPI serves on the Steering Committee)
CHAMPIONS: Rep. Giraldo and Sen. Valverde
- 19 Strengthen the PediPRN Program:** Provides an additional \$0.5 million in general revenue to fully fund the PediPRN and MomsPRN consultation and referral programs in FY 2027, replacing expiring federal support for PediPRN. This funding will ensure continued access to specialized mental health services for children, families, and mothers.
COALITIONS: Right from the Start Coalition (EPI serves on the Steering Committee) and Protect Our Healthcare Coalition (co-chaired by EPI and RIPIN)
- 20 Expand Early Intervention:** Helps children thrive by extending the Early Intervention Program to allow children to continue to receive services until September 1 after their third birthday.
COALITION: Right from the Start Coalition (EPI serves on the Steering Committee)
CHAMPIONS: Rep. Tanzi and Sen. Valverde

BONUS WIN

Public Education Funding Formula: The General Assembly passed a joint resolution creating a special legislative commission to continue the work of the Blue Ribbon Commission, led by the RI Foundation. This is a critical step toward advancing recommendations for improving Rhode Island's public education funding system. EPI's Executive Director served on the Commission.