

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF BRISTOL

**IN SUPPORT OF H 5393 AND S 0057 – AN ACT RELATING TO
HIGHWAYS – SIDEWALKS**

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island has introduced House Bill 5393 and Senate Bill 57 during the January 2025 legislative session, both entitled “An Act Relating to Highways – Sidewalks”; and

WHEREAS, these bills propose that the State of Rhode Island shall assume full responsibility for the maintenance of sidewalks along state highways, with the exception of snow and ice removal, which shall remain the responsibility of the municipalities; and

WHEREAS, municipalities such as the Town of Bristol often face significant financial and operational burdens in maintaining sidewalks located along state-owned highways—areas that are otherwise under the jurisdiction and control of the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT); and

WHEREAS, ensuring the safe and consistent condition of sidewalks along state highways is a matter of public safety and accessibility, and would benefit from centralized planning, oversight, and maintenance by the State; and

WHEREAS, passage of H 5393 and S 0057 would provide fiscal relief to municipalities while establishing clearer responsibility for sidewalk infrastructure along state routes, thereby improving coordination, safety, and long-term maintenance outcomes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Bristol hereby expresses its strong support for House Bill 5393 and Senate Bill 0057, and urges the General Assembly to pass this legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the members of the Bristol delegation to the General Assembly, the Speaker of the House, and the President of the Senate.

Passed as a resolution of the Bristol Town Council this 7 day of May, 2025.

ATTEST: _____
Nathan Calouro, Chairman Bristol Town Council

ATTEST: _____
Melissa Cordeiro, Town Clerk