



The RI Proposition

Opportunities and Advantages in the Ocean State

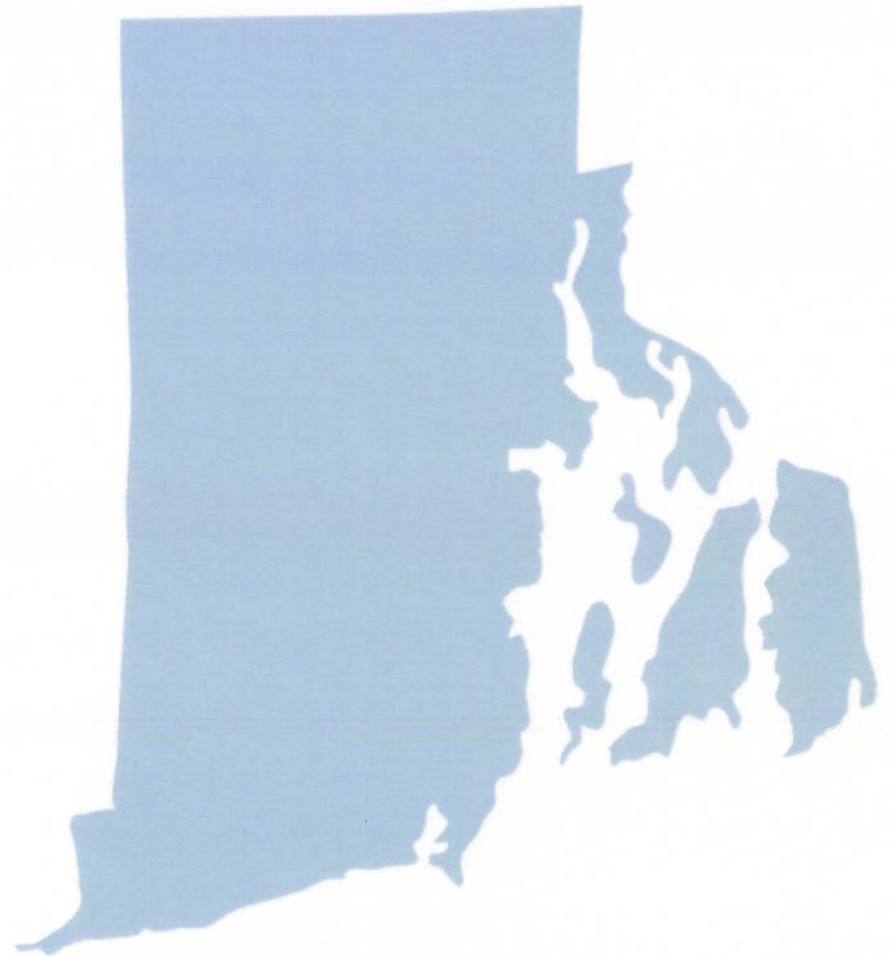
September 2015



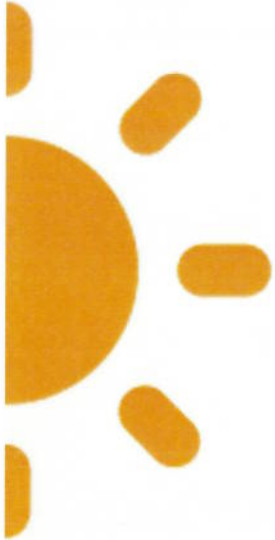
Rhode Island Commerce
CORPORATION

Why Rhode Island?

- **Predictability**
 - Increasingly favorable tax climate
 - Lowest corporate taxes in the region
 - Structural reforms that ensure long term fiscal stability
- **Talent**
 - Deep talent pool
 - New employer-driven workforce initiatives
- **Location**
 - Optimal location
 - Strong quality of life
- **Tax Incentives**
 - Powerful new tools in the toolbox
 - Sensible, streamlined regulations



Predictable & Favorable Business Climate



Rhode Island has been creating a more predictable business climate over the past 10 years.

It LOWERED
the top INCOME
TAX RATE from

9.9%
to

5.99%


in 2011

It LOWERED the
top CORPORATE
income TAX RATE
from

9%
to

7%

in 2015



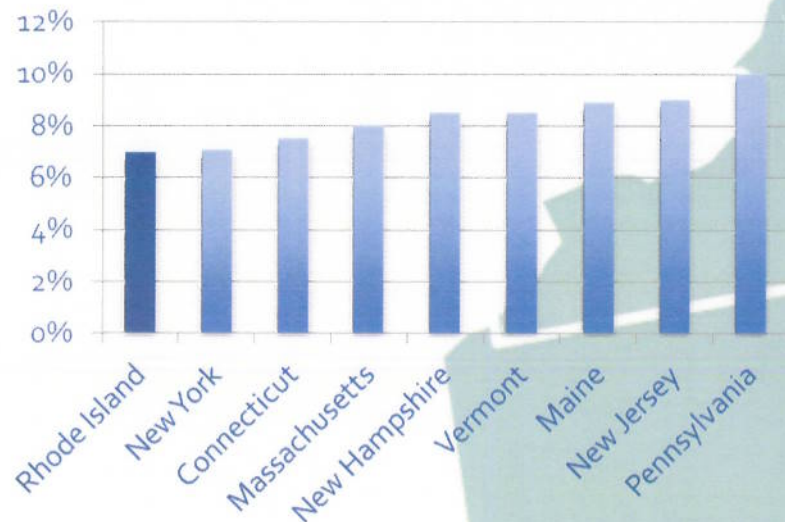
Rhode Island
has not raised
its top income
or corporate
tax rate since
1991.

Rhode Island
has not raised
its sales tax
rate since
1990.

Highly Competitive Tax Climate

7%

Rhode Island has the **LOWEST CORPORATE INCOME TAX** rate in the Northeast



RI ELIMINATED THE SALES TAX on energy for commercial use in 2015

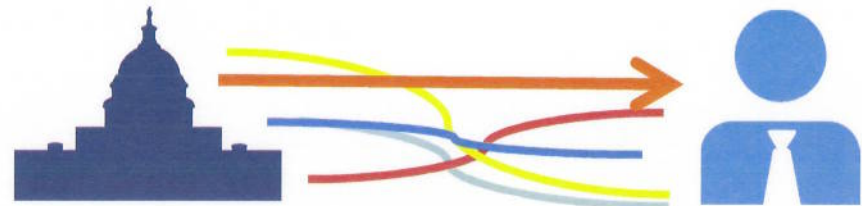

Rhode Island has a higher exemption on the **ESTATE TAX** than MA and NJ, and is in line with NY, CT and ME.

A Commitment to Structural Fiscal Stability

Recent pension reforms will save taxpayers nearly
\$4 billion over the coming years.

-IN ADDITION-

The Reinventing Medicaid Act of
2015 will save more than
\$90 Million
over the next year
in state general revenues



All while RI streamlines regulations
through a **NEW** Office of Regulatory
Reform and **LEAN** processes at the
Department of Business Regulation

A Deep Regional Talent Pool



Rhode Island's **11 colleges and universities graduated more than 18,000 college students** last year, and the state is within an hour's drive of approximately 300,000 students and a wealth of talent. Boston's colleges are a 45 minute commute away, as is the University of Connecticut

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND

UConn



BROWN



JOHNSON & WALES
UNIVERSITY

BOSTON
UNIVERSITY

MIT

An Emerging Hub for Tech, Engineering, & Design

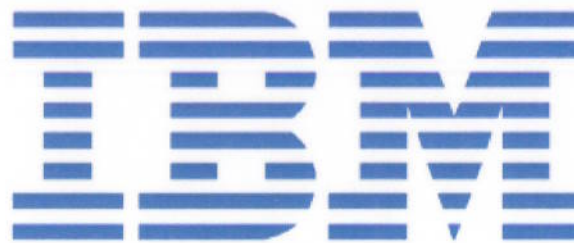
- Rhode Island colleges and universities award more **than 2,000 STEM degrees each year**
- URI and Brown are investing **nearly \$300 million** combined in expanding their engineering programs:
 - URI: \$125 million in state investment leveraging \$8 million in private investment
 - Brown: \$160 million capital campaign underway for new engineering facilities
- More than **5,500 software design, data processing, and computer programming businesses** within 60 miles of PVD
- Nearly **150,000 computer, software, and engineering professionals** employed in the Greater Providence-Boston metro areas.



Rendering of URI's brand-new College of Engineering

An Emerging Hub for Tech, Engineering, & Design

- The **Rhode Island School of Design (RISD)** is one of the oldest, best known, and most well-regarded schools of art and design in the United States
- RISD has working relationships with **more than 80 businesses**, including many of our nation's most recognizable brands, including:



An Optimal Location

- Optimal location on the Northeast Corridor
- Easy access to NYC and Boston
- The most convenient airport in the Northeast
- RI ranks 4th for peak broadband internet speeds and 6th for average speeds (Mbps) in the United States
- Hundreds of miles of world-class coastline



World-Class Quality of Life

- Rhode Island has **America's favorite and coolest city** (Providence, according to Travel + Leisure and GQ)
- **Strong public school districts** including Barrington and East Greenwich and **affordable private schools** like Moses Brown and La Salle Academy
- **Favorably priced homes** and miles of **waterfront property**
- Easy access to the **world's best medical care** in Boston
- T.F. Green, ranked **one of America's most convenient airports**
- The Ocean House, Travel + Leisure's **top resort in the Continental U.S.**
- Newport, the **sailing capital of North America**



The capital of Rhode Island has always punched above its weight in terms of smarts and creativity. But lately Providence has added a few new bullet points to its résumé—like a celebrated food scene and a high-style party hotel—that cement its rep as the coolest city you

GQ Magazine, May 2015

\$900,000 in MA vs. \$900,000 in RI



Newton, MA
1,800 SF

vs.



Barrington, RI
3,500 SF

\$400,000 in MA vs. \$400,000 in RI



Sharon, MA
1,400 SF

vs.



East Greenwich, RI
2,500 SF

Newton North HS and East Greenwich HS



Newton North High School (MA)
Average Combined SAT: 1752



East Greenwich HS (RI)
Average Combined SAT: 1756

Philips Andover Academy and Moses Brown School



Philips Andover Academy
Average Combined SAT: 2061
Day School Tuition: \$38K



Moses Brown School
Average Combined SAT: 1930
Upper School Tuition: \$33K

Owen in MA vs. Owen in RI



Bay State Owen
Salary: \$109,000
Rent: \$2,300/month



Photos:: GE television ad campaign, September 2015

Ocean State Owen
Salary: \$93,000
Rent: \$1,500/month

Advantage: Rhode Island

Traffic in MA vs. Traffic in RI



Bay State Traffic



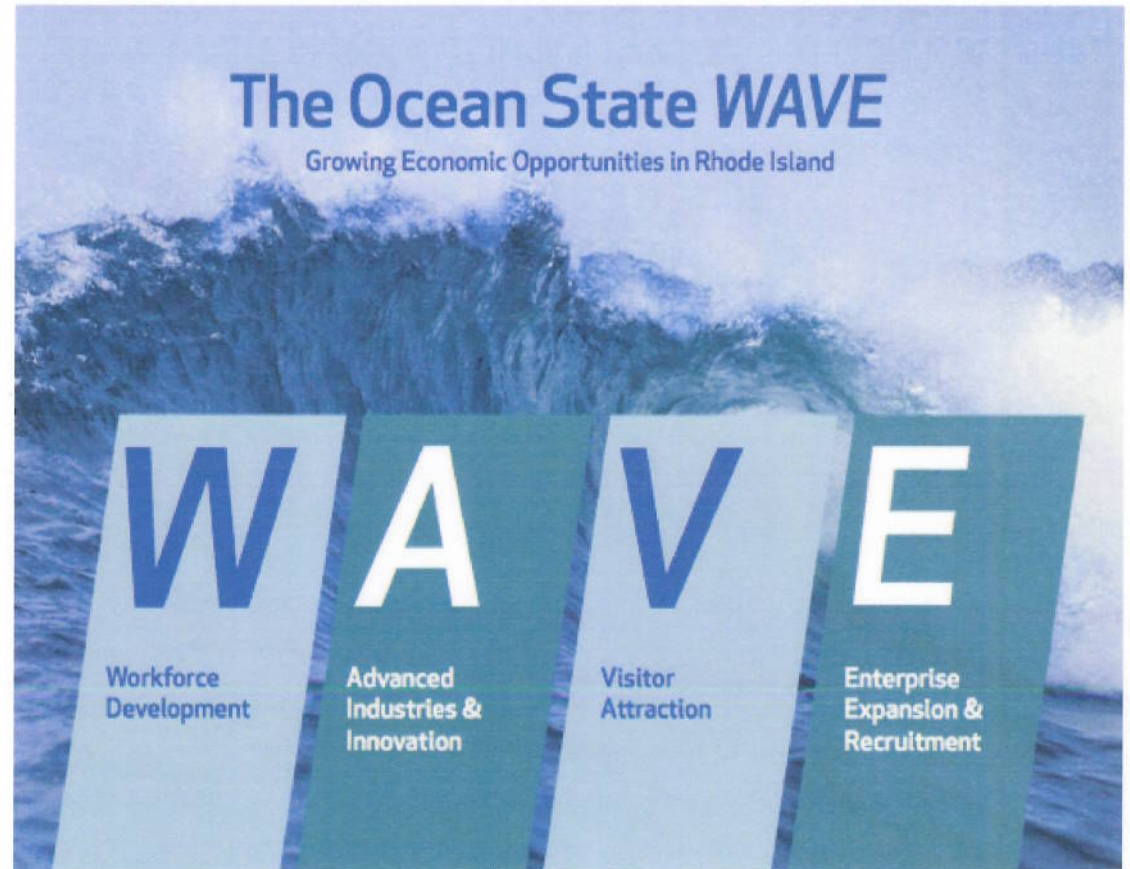
Ocean State Traffic

Advantage: Rhode Island...again!

A Powerful New Toolkit for Growth

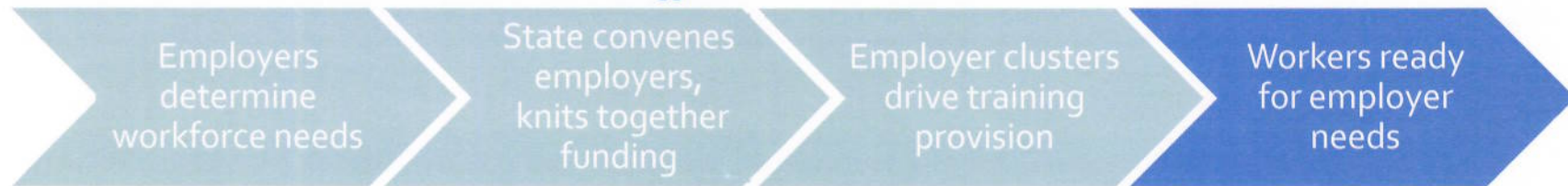
Rhode Island just passed a comprehensive set of potent new economic development initiatives, including:

- A **JOBS TAX CREDIT** for companies creating new jobs – **\$25,000 to \$75,000 per job over 10 years**
- A **REAL ESTATE TAX CREDIT** for new development – **can fill up to 30% of a project financing gap and exempt building materials from the sales tax**
- A state-level **TAX INCREMENT FINANCING** program – **can pledge up to 75% of new revenues to support infrastructure construction**
- A **COMPETITIVE STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM** for **recent STEM graduates** who take and keep jobs in Rhode Island

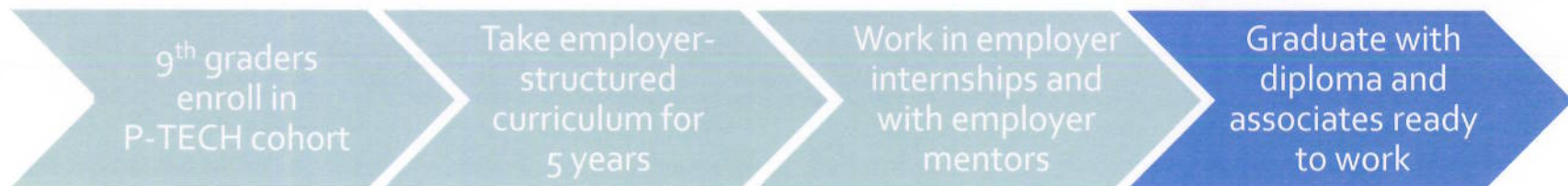


New Employer-Driven Workforce Initiatives

Real Jobs Rhode Island



P-TECH employer/college/HS partnerships



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