



## Monthly News & Updates

December 2025

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM RIBA!

A huge THANK YOU to all RIBA members for supporting RIBA and our mission of advocacy for broadcasters in 2025. Check out the bottom of this newsletter for a summary of 2025 RIBA highlights.



### Washington Update

Despite the recent turmoil in Washington, D.C., broadcasters have made progress on several regulatory and legislative topics. RIBA is a constant advocate for these issues:

#### AM For Every Vehicle Act

This act would require auto makers to keep AM radio in cars. The bill now has over 300 sponsors in the House and Senate and stands a good chance of passage in 2026.

#### Local Radio Freedom Act

This bill would ban performance taxes on music radio stations. With over 200 sponsors, it continues to build support.

#### Radio & TV Ownership Limits

RIBA and NAB continue to encourage Congress and the FCC to lift or modify ownership restriction on radio and tv stations. In order to thrive, our business needs to ability to compete with big tech.

[Click for more details on issues](#)

#### Statewide EAS Plan

RIBA has assisted the RI Emergency Management Agency in updating the state



### Broadcasters Foundation Helps Broadcasters in Need

For more than 70 years, Broadcasters Foundation of America has helped radio and television broadcast professionals who face a long recovery following medical treatments, a critical accident, or a natural disaster.

If you know of a broadcaster or *former* broadcaster in need, [CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#) or to donate. Or email [billgeorge@ribroadcasters.com](mailto:billgeorge@ribroadcasters.com)

### Got Snow Closings?

Even though our recent snowfalls have been small, the RIBA Snow-Closing System has already been active with weather-related school, church and business closings/delays. If you need help integrating the "Closings" list with your station website, please [email Bill George](#).

### Upcoming Career Fairs

- PC Career Expo 2/11
- URI College of Business 2/25

- NEIT 2/26
- RIC Career Fair 3/25
- URI Career Expo 3/25,
- URI Mktg. & Comm. Career Fair 4/08.

If you are interested in having your station(s) attend any of these events, please [email Bill George](#).

EAS plan. The plan is currently being reviewed and is pending approval by the FCC.

#### Deadline Update

The FCC has extended the compliance deadline for foreign government-sponsored content to June 7th. [Learn More](#)

## RI Broadcasters...Always There for our Communities



Throughout 2025, Rhode Island's broadcasters contributed considerable effort, manpower and resources to help our communities. From food drives, radio-thons, telethons, local news coverage and PSAs, our local radio and tv stations supported hundreds of causes and organizations.

And when the horror of a mass shooting struck Brown University on Saturday, stations brought in their top talent for extended coverage. Stations continue to inform, comfort and support Rhode Islanders. **THANK YOU for your hard work!**

## RIBA 2025 Highlights and Events

- **Federal Legislation:** All 4 members of RI Congressional Delegation signed on to co-sponsor the “AM for Every Vehicle Act.”
- **RI General Assembly Session:** RIBA successfully lobbied and testified against the proposed RI Digital Ad Tax. RIBA also assisted the RI Secretary of State’s Office in crafting language contained in new legislation requiring political candidates to disclose the use of AI in any ads running within 90 days of an election.
- **FCC Regulation:** RIBA joined in “50 state filings” to comment on proposed FCC regulatory fees, an EAS System review and Chairman Carr’s “Delete, Delete, Delete” proceeding.
- **RI Statewide EAS Plan:** RIBA has assisted the RI Emergency Mgt. Agency in updating the state EAS plan, which is currently under review at the FCC.
- **Job Fairs:** RIBA accompanied members at career fairs on various college campuses.
- **NAB State Leadership Conference:** RIBA President and three board members attended SLC in Washington, D.C. We had positive meetings with our RI Congressional delegation. In May, RIBA board members met with Sen. Jack Reed at his office to follow up.
- **RIBA Membership:** Expanded in 2025 with the addition of WFHN/WBSM-Fall River/New Bedford, WQRI-FM (RWU), WDOM-FM (Prov. College) and WSTL-AM/FM (Spanish). Several new members are expected to join in 2026.
- **ABIP (Alternative Broadcast Inspection Program):** Two stations inspected in 2025. 5-7 stations expected to be inspected in 2026.
- **Scholarships:** RIBA awarded \$10,000 in scholarships, including \$6,000 to recipients of the new RIBA Family Scholarship.
- **Golf Tournament:** RIBA welcomed 80 golfers to a new venue, Warwick Country Club on Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>. The event has earned great reviews from golfers.
- **Member Appreciation Party:** Our annual member get-together was held at Yellow Door Taqueria on October 16<sup>th</sup>. Over 85 members attended from nine member organizations.
- **Amber & Purple Alerts:** RIBA is coordinating with the RI State Police to rebuild the Amber Alert portal and to build a portal for the new upcoming “Purple Alert.”

- **“Press Forward”**: RIBA has participated in the research and development stage of a Press Forward chapter in RI. Under the auspices of the Rhode Island Foundation, Press Forward advocates for and financially supports the growth of journalism.
- **RI Media Archive Project**: RIBA is assisting media archivist Becca Bender in connecting with broadcasters as she builds RI’s first independent non-profit news media archive.



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