



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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April 2, 2024

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.
Chair, House Corporations Committee
State House
Providence, RI 02903

RE: 2024 H 7086 - AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS – VEGETATION MANAGEMENT FOR ELECTRIC SYSTEM RELIABILITY

Dear Chairperson Solomon:

This bill would strengthen the practices that are currently in place regarding the vegetation management practices and activities of electric distribution companies. For those reasons the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) supports this legislation.

RIDOT does effectively communicate and coordinate with RI Energy on any needed tree trimming removal along our state highways which impact overhead electric lines. This is an important component in the management of the infrastructure and assists in minimizing electrical outages. We look forward to continuing this coordination and will continue to do our part to support it.

Thank you for consideration of this bill. We are available if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Peter Alviti, Jr., P.E.
Director, Rhode Island Department of Transportation

cc: The Honorable Members of the House Corporations Committee
The Honorable Brian Patrick Kennedy
Nicole McCarty Esq., Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House