

## **Testimony in support of H7357: High Heat Waste Facility Act**

Dr. Hans Scholl, 71 Fales Avenue, Barrington, RI 02806

Date of Hearing: February 29, 2024

To Chair Bennett and the honorable Members of the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee:

The “SECTION 1. Findings” of H.7357 succinctly summarizes the good reasons why high-heat waste facilities must be prohibited:

- they emit highly toxic pollutants,
- pose unacceptable threats to the health and safety of Rhode Islanders and the environment,
- are the most costly method of waste disposal,
- and energy derived from the combustion of solid waste, and from the combustion of fuels derived from solid waste, is not renewable energy.

Consequently, it is in the best interest—and a moral mandate—for Rhode Island to protect our communities, environment, climate, and natural resources by prohibiting the construction and operation of solid waste incinerators, waste-to-fuel facilities, waste-to-chemical facilities, and other high-heat waste facilities.

For more comprehensive information, please also refer to the Conservation Law Foundation’s March 30, 2023 testimony of last year’s version of the bill (2023 H5142)<sup>1</sup>, which I wholeheartedly support and which equally applies in favor of this year’s H7357.

I urge you to bring H7357 to a vote in 2024.

Thank you very much for considering my input, and thank you to Representative McGaw for introducing this important bill.



Dr. Hans Scholl

February 25, 2024

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.rilegislature.gov/Special/comdoc/House Environment and Natural Resources 2023/03-30-2023--H5142--CLF - Mara Shulman.pdf](https://www.rilegislature.gov/Special/comdoc/House%20Environment%20and%20Natural%20Resources/2023/03-30-2023--H5142--CLF-%20Mara%20Shulman.pdf)