

To: HouseEnvironmentandNaturalResources@rilegislature.gov
Subject: Support for H7617

Dear Chairman and Committee members,

My name is Bill Ibelle of Providence, RI.

With the federal government paralyzed by intractable partisanship, it falls on us at the state level to take meaningful action to slow climate change.

H7617, the Building Decarbonization Act, is an important step in this process since the building sector accounts for nearly a third of all Rhode Island greenhouse emissions and is the largest single contributor of carbon emissions in the state. It will:

- 1) Establishes a program to catalogue the carbon emissions of individual buildings and use that data to craft a regulations aimed at reducing emissions.
- 2) Require new construction to be electric-ready so that owners do not have to face the undue cost of transitioning to clean power in the future.
- 3) Establish an ambitious, but reasonable, timetable for transitioning all existing buildings to electric power.

Extreme weather conditions and climate disasters have grown more frequent and inaction is certain to accelerate this trend.

We have inherited an enormously beautiful world and owe it to our children and grandchildren to save it from the environmental avalanche that is headed our way.

I hope you will vote in favor of this important legislation.

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