

Representative Bennett, Chair  
House Environment and Natural Resources Committee  
Rhode Island House of Representatives

March 21st, 2024

**Re: Support for H7782 – The Clean Heat Standard Act**

Dear Chair Bennett and members of the Committee,

My name is Dave and I am a resident of Bristol, RI. I'm writing in support of this bill because we need to do all that we can to reduce fossil fuel emissions and limit the effects of climate change.

Frankly, climate change keeps me up at night. I'm planning on having kids in the next couple of years, but I'm incredibly worried about the future we are currently on track to leave for them, and I am in turmoil. I'm going to feel a lot more hopeful if the necessary action is taken today.

It is at times like this we need strong leadership from our elected officials to do the right thing. To ensure a future of clean energy and limit the effects of climate change, we need to implement a Clean Heat Standard that requires heating suppliers to provide customers with gradually increasing percentages of clean heat services, phasing out the sale of fossil fuels. I'd also hope this bill includes measures to help local oil & propane companies transition their businesses to provide clean heating options such as heat pumps.

Passing this bill will accelerate the adoption of clean heating technology across the state, increasing the supply of heat pumps and driving down the cost for everyone. I recently got some quotes to install heat pumps at my house to phase out the use of my heating oil system, and nearly fell out of my chair. Even with the current incentives and tax credits, it is unaffordable for most people.

We cannot be expected to prioritize solving these problems ourselves if they are not also the priority of our government. This bill has to pass, and it cannot be the only one. It has to happen in concert with also removing fossil fuels from the electric grid (delivering on the 2033 Renewable Energy Standard) and the transportation sector wherever possible.

I plead the Committee and full General Assembly to vote in favor of its passage.

Sincerely,



David Stevens Crane

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