



RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
235 Promenade Street,
Providence, RI 02908

Office: 401.222.2771
Fax: 401.222.6802

March 21, 2024

The Honorable David A. Bennett
Chairman
House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
82 Smith Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

RE: H 8043 An Act Relating to State Affairs and Government – State Agency Emission Reporting

Dear Chairman Bennett,

Thank you for providing the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) the opportunity to comment on H 8043, which would require the Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council (EC4) to develop a template that can be used by all state agencies to track their climate emissions. DEM supports this legislation.

State agencies like DEM play a key role in helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles, buildings, and energy usage. As a large energy user, DEM must do its part to adopt cost-effective energy efficiency measures, renewable energy resources, and more sustainable heating and transportation solutions. As we take steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, it is appropriate that state agencies are also asked to do the same and the development of a template will aid agencies as they track their emissions.

We appreciate the opportunity to offer comments on this legislation and would be pleased to work with you to address the issues raised in this letter. Please feel free to contact Elizabeth Stone, Environmental Policy Analyst, at elizabeth.stone@dem.ri.gov should you have any additional questions or wish to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terrence Gray". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Terrence Gray, P.E.
Director

cc: Members of the House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Nicole McCarty, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House
Lynne Urbani, House Policy Director