

Representative David A. Bennett, Chair  
House Environment and Natural Resources Committee  
R.I. House of Representatives

**SUPPORT FOR H5167 The Clean Heat Standard Act**

February 6, 2025.

Dear Chair Bennett and Members of the Committee,

My name is Joel Gates. I am a resident of Glocester and a member of Climate Action Rhode Island. I am writing in strong support of the Clean Heat Standard Act.

With the new administration in Washington, it looks like we are on our own when it comes to programs that will benefit our environment and help Rhode Island achieve the Act on Climate goals! The Clean Heat Standard Act will be one solution to meeting our emissions reduction mandates. All of our buildings need to become more energy efficient and eventually all electric.

I am lucky to have heat pumps in my home and they are so much cleaner and energy efficient than the old oil-fired boiler! But not everyone can afford to switch to heat pumps and perform all the necessary weatherization, insulation, and air sealing upgrades needed to bring their homes and buildings to a respectable energy efficient level. So, fossil fuel providers will be obligated to offer clean energy upgrades to their customers resulting in buildings that are cleaner, greener, and more healthy places to live.

We need to get everyone thinking and acting to be successful in reducing our energy consumption and green house gas emissions!

Please pass H5167 out of committee and support it in the full House. Thank you for reading my testimony.

Sincerely,  
Joel Gates  
15 Elmdale Rd  
Glocester, RI