



## Testimony in support of H5167, The Rhode Island Clean Heat Standard

**Hearing Date: February 6, 2025**

Chair Bennett & Honorable Members of the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee:

On behalf of the League of Women Voters of RI and as Climate Team Chair for the League, I am testifying **in support of H5167, An Act Relating to Health and Safety - The Rhode Island Clean Heat Standard Act.**

Last year the state successfully pushed forward an amended version of the Building Decarbonization Act which allows for the creation of standards to obligate RI building and home owners to meet the emissions reductions required in the Act on Climate.

This current Act, H5167 would essentially “implement a system of tradeable clean heat credits earned from the delivery of clean heat measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions”.

**Importantly, H5167** requires such heat standards be designed “to minimize any adverse effects on low-income and moderate-income customers”. The bill seeks to ensure that standards do not create impossible or unreasonable hardships for “those households with the highest energy burdens,” Those establishing these heat standards should heed this economic justice caveat. All customers should benefit regardless of heating fuel, locale, or homeownership status.

The League and so many of us understand the need for reducing Green House gases, but the most vulnerable of our residents must be taken into consideration when enacting the related standards.

The League of Women Voters of Rhode Island urges you to **support H5019**.

Thank you,

*Diana (Donnie) McGee*

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