

Rep. Marvin Abney, Chair
House Finance Committee
RI House of Representatives

SUPPORT FOR H5076 Article 3, Section 15 Amended

February 25, 2025

Dear Chair Abney and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to support the implementation of an amended budget proposal so it matches the 2025 Building Decarbonization Act. The proposed budget only includes state-owned buildings for energy use benchmarking. The proposed budget needs to be amended to include all municipal and large commercial buildings over 50,000 sq.ft.

If Rhode Island is going to make any progress in reducing green house gas emissions from the building sector, we must move swiftly to begin energy benchmarking for all buildings. I want to do as much as I can and I want the State of Rhode Island to do as much as it can to leave my two daughters a world in which they can live and thrive.

The amended proposal is not a “budget breaker”, so there is no reason not to accept it. Thank you for reading my testimony.

Sincerely,

Joel Gates
Glocester, RI