



TOWN of NEW SHOREHAM

OFFICE of the TOWN CLERK

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TTY 711

March 2, 2021

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.  
Chair, House Corporations Committee  
Via email: rep-solomon@rilegislature.gov

Re: Support for H 5503 Net Metering

Dear Chairman Solomon:

The New Shoreham Town Council met last night and reconfirmed and ratified the enclosed letter in support of net metering, dated June 27, 2020.

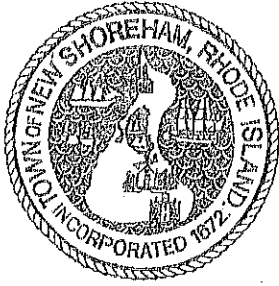
At the present time, Block Island has reached the 3% cap mandated under the existing net metering law. Because of this cap, BIUD has stopped approving net metering projects. The New Shoreham Town Council supports continued development of locally generated renewable energy sources and we strongly believe the amount of net metering should be recalibrated as a function of the BIUD's operational characteristics, subject to commission approval. Passage of H 5503 would not impact National Grid's program and would only impact the Block Island Utility District and Pascoag Utility District.

We respectfully request your support of H 5503, An Act Relating to Public Utilities and Carriers - Net Metering.

Sincerely,

*Andre M. Boudreau (by FF)*  
Andre M. Boudreau  
First Warden, New Shoreham

cc: Speaker of House K. Joseph Shekarchi  
Jeffrey Wright, President Block Island Utility District



TOWN of NEW SHOREHAM  
TOWN COUNCIL  
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KENNETH C. LACOSTE

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June 27, 2020

The Honorable Nicholas A. Mattiello  
Speaker of the House  
Via email: [rep-mattiello@rilegislature.gov](mailto:rep-mattiello@rilegislature.gov)

Re: Support for H7785

Dear Speaker Mattiello:

The New Shoreham Town Council met Wednesday, June 24, 2020 and voted to support House Bill 7785, Relating to Public Utilities and Carriers – Net Metering, which would amend to the Net Metering Statute, Section 39-26.4 and have the effect of allowing more net metering on Block Island, a long held goal of the New Shoreham Town Council and the Block Island Utility District (BIUD).

At the present time, Block Island has reached the 3% cap mandated under the existing net metering law. Because of this cap, BIUD has stopped approving net metering projects.

House Bill 7785 would remove the existing 3% cap and allows the Utility District to set their own cap that will be based on system specific engineering parameters. We are aware that they plan to submit an updated net metering tariff to the RI-PUC for approval once the statute is amended. We know that the BIUD Board of Commissioners will ensure that the new tariff will be designed to be fair and equitable to all utility district members while promoting the development of customer/member owned renewable projects.

These revisions to the net metering statute are absolutely necessary to continue the development of renewable energy on Block Island, long a goal of the Town Council.

We respectfully request your support of this legislation. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions about the New Shoreham Town Council's position.

Sincerely,

  
Kenneth C. Lacoste  
First Warden, New Shoreham

cc: Rep. Blake Filippi  
Jeffrey Wright, President Block Island Utility District

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