

Angel L Lopez Testimony in Opposition to House Bill 6331

January 25, 2022

To the House Committee on Corporations,

My name is Angel Lopez. I am a resident of the Silver Lake neighborhood in Providence and a Small Business Owner. I write to you today in opposition to House Bill 6331. I am a strong advocate for periodic inspections of equipment owned by electronic transmissions and distribution companies. This bill is clear on the equipment that needs to be inspected, but the bill does not state what a periodic inspection is or the required contents of an adequate summary.

I would like to remind everyone reading and all the State Legislators who sit on the House Committee on Corporations that any Company designated as a "Public Utility" should conduct its' business activities in the best interest of each municipality it services. A "Public Utility" should not drain the budget of a municipality or the residents of that municipality. I have documented and voiced complaints in the last 18 months about such equipment malfunctioning. I noticed a written process for State Agencies to follow regarding such complaints did not exist. I used Social media to raise the awareness necessary that led to the remediation of such equipment failures.

To align with the State of Rhode Island's encroachment laws, the term "equipment" as defined in this bill, should not inhibit any resident of this State from enjoying their property inside their home or business. If this bill described inspection requirements in the same detail as a vehicle inspection, it would include points of inspection that ensure encroachment to neighboring residents and passerby are documented, mitigated, and avoided. House Bill 6331 has an honorable purpose, but an amendment that includes the points of inspection and regulations must be included before it moves out of this committee. I ask all sitting members of the House Committee on Corporations to oppose this bill and ask for inspection points to be clearly stated in this bill before passage to the House floor.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Angel L Lopez

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