



January 25, 2022

RI House Corporations Committee
Attn: Louis Mansolillo, Committee Clerk
State House, Room 101
Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

VIA HouseCorporations@rilegislature.gov

Re: Support for H-7112 – Parking Facilities and Privileges

Committee Members,

Grow Smart RI submits this letter in support of House Bill 7112 requiring the installation of designated electric vehicle parking spaces, with charging capabilities by certain businesses, municipalities, and housing developments in existing, new or expanded parking lots commencing January 1, 2023.

Grow Smart RI is a statewide coalition of business and civic leaders and concerned community stakeholders that provides policy guidance to those seeking thoughtful, long-term economic growth with enduring and equitably shared community benefits. We have a 23-year history of promoting best practice tools and strategies for advancing economic and community revitalization, including a robust multi-modal transportation system. One of the principal ways we do this is by promoting public and private investments in a 21st century transportation system that's fully integrated with sustainable land use strategies and goals that benefit all Rhode Islanders.

You may have come to know Grow Smart RI as a leading champion for enhancing and expanding Rhode Island's public transportation system and active transportation infrastructure for safer walking and biking.

However, we recognize that if Rhode Island is to achieve its aggressive and legally enforceable emission reduction targets outlined in The Act on Climate, it's going to require a multitude of bold actions, including the transition to electric vehicles and the necessary supporting infrastructure.

We strongly encourage passage of this measure.

Thank you for your public service.

Sincerely,

John Flaherty
Deputy Director

Gail E. McCann
Board Chair
Scott Wolf
Executive Director

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