

To: House Committee on Corporations
Re: SUPPORT FOR House Resolution No. 7353 EV Programming
By: Joel Gates 15 Elmdale Rd., Glocester, RI. 02857

March 7, 2024

Dear Chair Solomon and Members of the Committee,

I have owned an electric vehicle for almost 10 years. I use public charging once in a while, but rely mostly on charging at my home. I am fortunate to own my home and garage where I charge the vehicle. Other folks are not as lucky.

Over the years, I have spoken to quite a few people who want to purchase an EV, but lack access to charging because they rent, live in an apartment complex, or a number of other reasons. If Rhode Island is going to make the necessary transition to EV's to satisfy the Act on Climate mandates, then we need to be sure everyone has access to vehicle charging. And a lot of people are not going to get an EV until they can see charging stations that will work for them. Rhode Island needs to dramatically expand its EV charging network to make charging available to all who are making the essential switch to electric transportation.

Another aspect of the Resolution is to incentivize off-peak EV charging. I participated in a pilot program a few years ago and found it very easy to adhere to. Even now, without the incentive, I find myself waiting until after 9pm to plug in. It's the right thing to do, but a little monetary reward will work even better!

Please support this Resolution now and in the full House.

Thank you for reading my testimony.

Sincerely,
Joel Gates