



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES & CARRIERS

Administration

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March 21, 2024

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.
Chairman – House Committee Corporations
State House
Providence, R.I. 02903

Re: **H 7603 – Residential Solar Energy Disclosure and Homeowners Bill of Rights**

Dear Chairman Solomon:

The Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (Division) strongly supports H 7603 which makes important and necessary changes to legislation designed to protect consumers who purchase or lease residential solar facilities.

The changes proposed by the Department of Business Regulation (DBR) would, among other things, have that Department assume the enforcement role. The current iteration of this legislation established the Division as the agency to oversee enforcement of the provisions related to solar contracts. The Division's authority is, however, limited to regulated public utilities, as opposed to private contractors. DBR's proposed change in enforcement roles will help ensure the measure's goal of consumer protection while supporting uniform industry standards in essential contract provisions, transparency, and specific consumer rights.

The Division appreciates the thoughtful and comprehensive approach that DBR has brought to this discussion and the amendments before you this evening.

Sincerely,

Linda George, Esq.

Administrator, RI Division of Public Utilities and Carriers

CC: The Honorable Representative Mia Ackerman
The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Corporations
Nicole McCarty, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel