



June 16, 2025

The Honorable Joseph Solomon
House Corporations Committee
State House
Providence, RI 02903

Re: H.6418, House Resolution Creating a Special Legislative Commission to Study and Provide Recommendations for Increasing the Use and Building the Infrastructure for Alternative Fuels

Dear General Assembly,

On behalf of the Energy Marketers Association of Rhode Island (EMARI), I write to express our strong support for the House Resolution introduced by Representative Stephen M. Casey, which seeks to create a special legislative commission to study and provide recommendations for increasing the use of, and building the infrastructure for alternative fuels in Rhode Island.

Approximately one-third of Rhode Island homes rely on Biodiesel blends. Since 2017, our state has blended with biodiesel, a cleaner, renewable alternative. In 2021, EMARI proudly led efforts to support legislation increasing biodiesel blend requirements. As a result, Rhode Island currently mandates a 10% biodiesel blend, which is set to rise to 20% on July 1, 2025, making our state the first in the nation to adopt such a forward-thinking mandate.

EMARI and our industry have worked diligently to make this a reality. In addition to advocating for policy, we provide rebates for high-efficiency heating systems and fuel storage tanks. A new furnace, for example, can reduce oil consumption by over 30%. We also collaborate with partners in heat pump and solar energy technologies to offer Rhode Islanders more diverse and sustainable energy options.

We believe that the foundation of sound energy policy lies in **Balance and Research**, focusing on key pillars:

- Full lifecycle energy analysis—from production to end use
- Environmental responsibility and emissions reductions
- Public education and consumer awareness
- Energy security, safety, and health impacts

- Economic viability for families and businesses
- Preservation of consumer choice
- Transparency in defining and delivering clean energy
- Reliable and resilient supply chains
- Increased jobs and training

Rhode Island has the opportunity to lead the nation by leveraging its talent, innovation, and commitment to responsible energy use. This resolution is a crucial step forward, as our state cannot afford to treat energy as an experiment. The decisions we make now will shape our energy future, impacting every resident and our shared environment.

We urge the General Assembly to support the creation of this commission and move Rhode Island toward a smarter, more sustainable, and more secure energy future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Diane Quesnelle".

Diane Quesnelle
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