

Trafton testimony to support H7068, House Corporations Committee 3.19.2026

Dear Chair Solomon and Honorable Members of The House Corporations Committee,

I'm Peter Trafton from Providence, Rhode Island, writing in strong support of H7068, sponsored by yourself and colleagues.

When introduced last year, this bill clearly addressed the need for state supervision and vastly improved development of grid modernization programs to increase electric services in our state while minimizing the cost. This year's version is ready for passage. Which I urge along with many of my environmental and energy focused friends.

It's clear that Rhode Island must increase its supervision of proposed transmission facilities, which have been growing rapidly and cost, with little attention to improving performance and limiting expenses and risks. We have a great need for increasing electric grid capacity and flexibility while limiting expenses, as illustrated by transmission charges in electric bills. More efficient transmission facilities should lower the cost of the electricity we use not just provide an income center for our utility.

Assigning this role to the EFSB is wise and carried out explicitly by the bill. It is collaborative with the PUC. Our needs for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and controlling costs are specifically emphasized.

Rhode Island needs to pass 7068 now to create the electric grid we need now and in the future. Without this law, we are failing to address the public's need. Please pass 7068 without delay.

Thanks very much for considering my comments.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Trafton". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Peter Trafton

