

Testimony in opposition of H 7139

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To Chair Solomon and the honorable Members of the House Corporations Committee

Please find herein my testimony **in opposition of H 7139: RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- THE RENEWABLE ENERGY GROWTH PROGRAM**). This bill is an obstructionist attempt to unfairly target renewable energy popularity as a low-cost energy source for businesses and residents of RI. This bill is backed by the fossil fuel industry and if enacted – would drastically slow down and further stifle deployment of low-cost renewable energy projects benefitting businesses and residents across RI.

It strikes me as devious that the authors of this so called “Growth” bill are calling for more government review and big government involvement to micromanage renewable energy projects. It’s ironic that the authors are now calling for more government scrutiny on renewable projects, when what businesses and residents want and need is less red tape and a more streamlined approval process for our renewable energy projects. This bill smells like “Government Overreach” to me. How ironic right?

Businesses and residents of RI don’t want or need general assembly approval for our renewable energy programs. We don’t want or need the general assembly slowing down the just transition to renewable energy. We want and need less governmental regulation and less reviews for our renewable energy projects. Governmental roadblocks and delays related to renewable energy projects are costing us a lot unnecessary time and money.

Please do not bring this bill to a vote. Businesses and residents don’t want or need it.

*George Voutes*

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