



March 19, 2026

House Corporations Committee
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903
e) HouseCorporations@rilegislature.gov

Re: Support for House Bill 7269

Dear Chair Solomon and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jonathan Knowles, and I live in Providence. I am submitting testimony in support of Bill 7269.

I am a Professor of Architecture at the Rhode Island School of Design and an architect working in building-integrated solar power. I have over 30 years of experience in the solar design industry. I believe that balcony solar is a game changer and should be permitted in the state.

The technology is well developed and offers simple installation for homeowners, significantly reducing costs. It will help lower energy expenses for consumers and, when widely adopted, can help offset peak energy loads that drive the need for new power plants.

My partner and I lecture on this topic every semester and would welcome the opportunity to say that it has been adopted here in Rhode Island.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Knowles', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Jonathan Knowles, RA

PS: Safety concerns raised by the utility are exaggerated. These panels have been used safely in Germany for years.