

**Trafton testimony to support H7879, 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 H7879, sponsored by Rep Cortvriend and colleagues.

In the time of Trump's ill-founded efforts to prevent development of renewable energy sources, we must not forget that federal programs supporting geothermal heating and cooling projects still have some available funding. Millions of dollars are available from the US Department of Energy as of February 2026.

Our neighbors in Massachusetts have several geothermal projects in various stages of development. Their progress is encouraging. We should seriously consider approaches such as that advanced by Rep Cortvriend to see if such projects might succeed in Rhode Island as well. I believe H7879 is well thought out and deserves our support and hope that you will provided. Please pass this bill and advance it to the House floor.

Thanks for considering my comments.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "PTrafton". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

Peter Trafton