

2026 H-7610
PUC
Amendment



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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Public Utilities Commission

Chairman Ronald T. Gerwatowski
Commissioner Abigail Anthony
Commissioner Karen Bradbury

April 7, 2026

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.
Chair, House Committee on Corporations
State House
Providence, RI 02903

Re: House Bill 7610– Relating to Public Utilities and Carriers – Public Utilities Commission –
Comprehensive Study

Dear Chair Solomon:

I am submitting the following comments on behalf of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) on House Bill 7610 which requires the PUC and Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (Division) to produce a joint comprehensive study report for the general assembly by April 30, 2027.

Understanding the drivers behind utility rates is important to understanding how cost controls may be implemented. However, the PUC respectfully suggests that it would be more efficient for the Division to undertake this project. Additionally, if the Division identifies cost control opportunities during the study, but before the report is issued, the Division can raise them for PUC consideration immediately. From a due process perspective, this would be better than the PUC (decision-maker) and Division (party) discussing such proposals prior to consideration by the PUC. Therefore, we respectfully recommend striking the public utilities commission from the bill.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 401-780-2147 or cynthia.wilsonfrias@puc.ri.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cynthia G. Wilson-Frias".

Cynthia G. Wilson-Frias
Chief of Legal Services

Copy: Representative Lima