

April 3, 2026

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.
Chairman, House Corporations Committee
Rhode Island State House
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

RE: H-7883 – Relating to Public Utilities & Carriers – Regulatory Powers of Administration

Dear Chairman Solomon:

On behalf of Rhode Island Energy, I am writing in **opposition** to H-7883 which would amend the General Laws governing review and approval of transactions between utilities. **If advanced, this bill would effectively prevent a fair and timely review of transactions proposed between utilities.**

Rhode Island Energy provides essential energy services to more than 770,000 customers across the Ocean State through the delivery of electricity and natural gas. Our team of 1,300+ union and non-union employees is dedicated to helping Rhode Island customers and communities thrive, while supporting the transition to a cleaner energy future in a safe, reliable, and affordable manner.

The proposed legislation would re-define “public interest” as a catch-all of items that would, effectively, make it impossible to have a utility transaction approved in Rhode Island. In addition, the blanket authorization of allowing *any* individual, business, or group to intervene to advocate on behalf of *any* conceivable public interest would, at a minimum, make any proceeding entirely unwieldy. At worst, this bill would result in giving *any* opponent effective veto power over a proposed utility transaction.

Rhode Island Energy appreciates the opportunity to comment on this proposed legislation and respectfully requests that the Committee reject H-7883 in its entirety.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,



Nicholas S. Ucci
Director of Government Affairs

CC: The Honorable Members of the House Corporations Committee
The Honorable Arthur Handy, House of Representatives