



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

April 7, 2026

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr., Chairman
House Committee on Corporations
Rhode Island House of Representatives
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

RE: H-7885 Relating to Public Utilities and Carriers – Regulatory Powers of Administration

Dear Chairman Solomon and Members of the House Committee on Corporations,

As Governor, my top priority is affordability, and everywhere I travel across Rhode Island, I hear about the rising cost of utility bills. I hear from families struggling to keep up with monthly bills and from small businesses and manufacturers who say high energy costs are making it harder to hire, invest, and compete. These conversations make clear that Rhode Islanders deserve to know exactly what they are paying for and why their bills keep rising.

That's why I want to thank Representatives Sanchez for introducing this legislation and thank Majority Leader Ciccone in the Senate for introducing companion legislation in the Senate. H-7885 will require electric utilities to provide a clear, visual breakdown of each component of a customer's bill, including supply, distribution, transmission, ratepayer-funded programs and policies, taxes, and other charges, so customers can clearly see what is driving their electricity costs. This added transparency will help Rhode Islanders better understand what is driving their electricity costs, including the roughly 24 percent of their bill that comes from state programs and taxes.

While we need this additional transparency, particularly when certain costs such as the Renewable Energy Standard are not clearly identified for customers, transparency alone is not enough. We must also take action to bring costs down. That's why my Affordability for All agenda focuses on lowering the state-controlled portion of utility bills, reducing costs by \$1 billion over the next five years by aligning our clean energy programs with neighboring states, reforming payment practices for utility paving projects to reduce near-term rate impacts, and eliminating bonus incentive payments to utility shareholders.

I respectfully urge the Committee to support H-7885 and to advance the broader Affordability for All agenda to deliver meaningful relief for Rhode Islanders. Transparency is the first step, and lowering costs is the goal. Rhode Islanders deserve both.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel J. McKee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and "M".

Daniel J. McKee

Governor