letter clean heat standard act

To: HouseEnvironmentandNaturalResources@rilegislature.gov

Subject: Support for H7782.

Dear Chairman and Committee members,

My name is Bill Ibelle and I live in Providence, RI.

Nearly a third of all carbon emissions in Rhode Island come from our residential and commercial buildings, so it is essential to transition to clean energy.

H7782, the Clean Heat Standards Act, is an important step in that process because it shifts some of the cost of that transition away from property owners and onto the fossil fuel companies that profited from decades of pollution. In this since, it can be seen as an essential companion bill to H7617, the Building Decarbonization Act, which is also before this committee.

In addition, this bill reserves a percentage of this financial assistance for low and moderate income owners so that electrification does not become an improvement available only to well-off residents.

We need to make this transition, but should ensure that at least part of the financial burden is shouldered by those who created and profited from the problem.

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