

February 22, 2025

Dear Chair RI House Environment and Natural Resources Committee,

I am in full support of H 5343 and would like it see it brought to a full house vote and passed as soon as possible.

H 5343 is sensible and well-constructed legislation which the vast majority of RI residents' support. H 5343 is very pragmatic in nature, accelerating the transition away from outdated, inefficient, and in some cases (fossil fuel powered energy systems and gas-powered leaf blowers) harmful and highly toxic equipment and their related usages.

H 5343 is exactly the kind of legislation that demonstrates RI government's leadership and resolve to its citizens and the natural world we all depend on. This Leading by Example Act is the right thing to do, at the right time for our state, and is in strong alignment with the state's Act on Climate mandates. H 5343 will definitely have a positive effect on the health and well-being of those working in State Government, and it will absolutely have a positive knock-on effect to all businesses and residents by demonstrating that their state is moving forward in practical, efficient and more sustainable ways.

Change is never easy, but H 5343 is the sort of Act that everyone (or the vast majority) of people in RI will support. It's this large majority that really wants H 5343 to become law.

Current and future RI residents and our natural world will thank the current RI House for their leadership and foresight on leading by example. Let's get it done!

Regards,
George Voutes
Bristol, RI