



RIEEA

Rhode Island Environmental
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On Behalf of the Rhode Island Environmental Education Association

In Support of H-5343 – Lead by Example Act

House Environment and Natural Resources

Thursday, February 27, 2025

The Rhode Island Environmental Education Association (RIEEA) strongly supports **H-5343**, and respectfully urges its passage. RIEEA is a collaborative network of individuals and organizations working to support and promote environmental education in Rhode Island. Our membership includes more than 60 organizations¹ including Audubon Society of Rhode Island, Save The Bay, the Rhode Island Conservation Districts, and Rhode Island College, and over 400 individuals including educators, scientists, advocates, students, parents, and others.

Banning the use of single-serving plastic bottles in state facilities will significantly reduce plastic waste and foster a culture of resource conservation. Additionally, the promotion of electric vehicles and renewable energy technologies not only advances our state's climate goals but also reduces harmful emissions and dependence on fossil fuels, supporting a cleaner, healthier environment. By prioritizing the transition to renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies, the state sets a powerful example of leadership in addressing climate change. Moreover, the bill's focus on composting, recycling, and reducing waste in state buildings directly supports the vital educational work RIEEA is doing to encourage responsible stewardship and environmental literacy in communities statewide.

I urge you to pass this important piece of legislation.

¹ <https://www.rieea.org/about-us/organizational-members/>