



February 27, 2025

The Honorable David A. Bennett, Chair
House Environment and Natural Resources Committee
Rhode Island House of Representatives
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

RE: BILL NUMBER H-5344 – AN ACT EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES AND AMENDING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION ON CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT AND SOLUTIONS

Chair Bennett and Honorable Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, Please accept this testimony in support of H5344, which seeks to amend the membership of the Special House Commission on Climate.

The League appreciates the dedicated efforts of the Commission in addressing the critical and evolving challenges of climate change. Its work is essential in identifying and implementing sustainable policies that will support Rhode Island’s municipalities in their ongoing efforts to build climate resilience and mitigate environmental impacts. By extending the Commission’s term, H5344 ensures that this important work can continue, providing cities and towns with the research, collaboration, and guidance necessary to navigate climate-related challenges effectively.

Furthermore, we recognize the importance of expanding the Commission’s membership to foster a more comprehensive and inclusive approach to addressing climate change. The League is proud to have a seat on this Commission and remains committed to contributing to the meaningful discussions and policy recommendations that will help protect Rhode Island’s communities for generations to come.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Committee to support H5344 and advance it favorably.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C.J.", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Charles J. Donovan Jr.
Senior Policy and Legislative Affairs

Cc: Honorable Members of House Environment and Natural Resources Committee