



**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

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March 11, 2025

The Honorable David A. Bennett  
Chairman  
House Environment and Natural Resources Committee  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: 2025 H 5425, RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION -- STATE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS METRICS**

Dear Chairman, Bennett :

Thank you for the opportunity to allow the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) to respectfully submit this letter of opposition regarding H 5425. This bill would require the Division of Planning, in conjunction with the Division of Capitol Asset Management, and the Office of Energy Resources, create a checklist of environmental and energy issues that certain state construction projects, which cost in excess of ten million dollars, would need to consider and take into consideration during the design and construction phases of a building construction project.

The Department strongly opposes this legislation. If enacted, this bill would severely cripple our ability to complete our projects included in the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP). The state already has a number of Federal Performance Metrics already built into our project prioritization and planning, including Highways Safety statistics, Highway Infrastructure Condition, and Highway Reliability.

This bill adds additional layers to an already onerous permitting process, severely impeding our ability to complete projects on-time, and on-budget. Additionally, this bill would bring our much-needed infrastructure improvement to a screeching halt, and potentially delaying the progress we have been making on much needed infrastructure repairs.

We feel this bill poses serious safety concerns by lengthening what is an already grueling approval process. We respectfully request you take this into consideration as you review this legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information and for your diligence in reviewing these pieces of legislation. Please let me know if any further information is needed.

Sincerely,

Peter Alviti, Jr., P.E.  
Director, Rhode Island Department of Transportation

cc: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
The Honorable Arthur Handy  
Nicole McCarty Esq. Chief Legal Counsel