



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES & CARRIERS

Administration

89 Jefferson Boulevard

Warwick, Rhode Island 02888

(401) 941-4500

(401) 941-9207 - Fax

March 12, 2025

The Honorable David A. Bennett

Chairman – House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

State House

Providence, R.I. 02903

**Re: H 5493 – Building Decarbonization Act of 2025**

Dear Chairman Bennett:

The Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (Division) embraces and is engaged in the ongoing state-wide discussions of achieving our state's decarbonization goals.

To that end, we refer to Article 3, Section 15 (State Facilities Benchmarking Article) of the Governor's proposed FY2026 budget, which was recently introduced as House Bill No. 5076. The Division supports the State Facilities Benchmarking Article, which is a natural progression from the "Building Energy Benchmarking and Performance Standards" report (EC4 Report) recently published by the Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council. The EC4 Report was mandated by the 2024 passage of Joint Resolution 7617 (Substitute A):

The Governor's proposed State Facilities Benchmarking Article establishes clear, achievable benchmarking goals across state-occupied facilities, and requires annual reporting through the Office of Energy Resources. This benchmarking data will then be utilized to then design long-term energy performance standards and deadlines for compliance across our state-occupied facilities. In this context we oppose the bill as drafted.

Sincerely,

Linda George, Esq.

Administrator, RI Division of Public Utilities and Carriers

CC: The Honorable Representative Rebecca M. Kislak  
The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Nicole McCarty, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel