

## Lou Mansolillo

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**From:** Jennifer Bach <sherm128@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 25, 2026 10:44 PM  
**To:** House Environment and Natural Resources Committee  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB7422

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My name is Jennifer Bach, I served on the original Rhode Island Geoengineering Study Commission after being appointed by then Speaker Nicholas Mattiello. I grew up near the State House on Smith Hill. I care deeply about this building, what it represents and what happens inside it.

I am encouraged to see HB7422 with so many sponsors this year. It means people are listening.

When I served on the Study Commission, I was surprised to learn about certain pollutants that appear in budgets and planning documents but are not consistently monitored or regulated. Some of these substances are known to be hazardous.

Most of all, no one gave consent to any of this.

Rhode Islanders did not vote to have substances released into their air. They were not asked. There was no public health review that people could see or understand. Whether someone believes weather modification is happening or not, the basic principle remains the same. Large environmental interventions require public knowledge and consent and meaningful governance.

HB7422 is a strong bill. It makes violations a felony. It allows up to five years in prison. It treats each day of violation as a separate offense. Those are serious provisions.

But the \$5,000 fine is too low. It does not match the seriousness of the issue. If this bill is going to protect people, the financial penalties must be meaningful.

I also ask that this legislation leave no room for executive override in an emergency. If atmospheric intervention is prohibited, it should be prohibited. Rhode Islanders deserve clear protections without exceptions.

Please strengthen the penalty section and move this bill forward into law.

Thank you for your service.

Respectfully,  
Jennifer Bach  
Warwick, Rhode Island