

**Testimony in support of House Bill 7533, House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, February 26, 2026, by Peter Trafton, Providence, Rhode Island**

Dear Chair Bennett and Honorable members of the House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,

For years, Rhode Island's government has promoted the concept of "lead by example" for many important environmental improvement activities. Unfortunately, these projects are often too weak, too slow, and too limited to really cope with the problems they are intended to address.

It is thus most seemly for the general assembly to take on a review and management strategy for their own waste.

I recognize and thank Rep Carson for her persistence with this plan in the face of its being ignored in previous sessions. The whole state of Rhode Island has waste management challenges. Our elected leaders should be expected to take responsibility for their own waste. Certainly, those who elect them must wonder why they have not done so.

Now is the time. Please support H 7533 for the Rhode Island State House waste audit which will hopefully lead to examples of waste reduction that we must expect from everyone.

Thanks for considering my input.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "PTrafton". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized, with the "P" and "T" being particularly prominent.

Peter Trafton