



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES & CARRIERS  
Administration  
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March 11, 2026

The Honorable David A. Bennett  
Chairman – House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
State House  
Providence, R.I. 02903

**Re: H 7183– Building Benchmarking and Reporting Act of 2026**

Dear Chairman Bennett:

The Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (Division) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on House Bill No. 7183. The Division embraces and is engaged in the ongoing discussion of obtaining our state’s climate goals, but respectfully opposes the bill as written.

To that end, we refer to Article 3 of the Governor’s proposed FY2027 budget (“Article”), which was recently introduced as House Bill No. 7127. The Division supports the Article, which is a natural progression from the 2025 “Building Energy Benchmarking and Performance Standards” report (EC4 Report) published by the Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council. That EC4 Report was mandated by the passage of Joint Resolution 7617 Substitute A in 2024.

The Governor’s proposed Article establishes clear, achievable benchmarking goals and requires annual reporting through the Office of Energy Resources. The Division appreciates the intent of the proposed House Bill No. 7183 but would refer the Committee to the aforementioned Article, which would allow for informed, collaborative efforts across our state facilities.

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