



Rhode Island House of Representatives  
Members of the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee

March 11th, 2026

In support of Building Benchmarking and Reporting Act H-7183

Dear House Environment and Natural Resources Committee,

I am writing in support of the house bill 7183, Building Benchmarking and Reporting Act. I support this bill because Rhode Island has the duty to act in order to serve its community and climate needs.

This bill is a step forward in the right direction in addressing Rhode Island's inefficiency in the building sector; which is important as buildings are the second largest contributor to emissions in Rhode Island.

H-7183 requires all large buildings in Rhode Island to track and report their energy usage and carbon emissions. This should be the minimum in what should've been happening for decades to track our climate goals.

In 2021, the State passed the Act on Climate, and has nothing to show for it today. Emissions continue to rise, and the Department of Environmental Management and EC4's solution is for the consumers to obtain electric vehicles. This is not substantial for equitable reasons, and also for the fact that all gas powered vehicles will then be discarded somewhere undefined.

The solution is this bill. Not the full solution, but the first step WE NEED for an equitable, cleaner Rhode Island.

Sincerely,

Shannon McGrath

Rhode Island Student Climate Coalition