



Rhode Island House of Representatives
Members of the House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Representative David Bennett, Chair

March 25, 2026

In Support of House Bill 7004

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

I am writing today to strongly urge you to support the Climate Superfund Act of 2026 (H 7004). Fossil fuel companies are principally responsible for climate change, not only for selling a harmful product to the public, but also for spreading misinformation and lobbying in governments to prevent action on climate change. Requiring polluters to pay for the costs of their pollution is a fundamental principle of environmental law, and it is high time to apply it to the fight against climate change.

As a remedial cost-recovery measure, this Act would put money back into the state's coffers to pay for actions it has already taken to redress climate-related damages, relieving the burden on taxpayers. Many other states are introducing similar climate superfund acts this year, and New York and Vermont have already passed their own. As a very climate-vulnerable state, Rhode Island must follow suit.

Sincerely,

Evan Tao

103 Thayer Street, Providence, Rhode Island

Brown '27, Rhode Island Student Climate Coalition