

Testimony in support H 7004: Climate Superfund Act of 2026

George Voutes, 17 Shore Road, Bristol RI, 02809

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To Chair Bennett and the honorable Members of the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee:

I submit testimony in support H 7004. RI homeowners, businesses, residents and wildlife shouldn't shoulder the burdens of (living in) and cleaning up the dangerous (and often toxic) mess left over from fossil fuel companies' harmful activities. Fossil fuel companies caused the climate emergency we are in today and they **MUST** be held accountable and pay their fair share of cleaning up the pollution they made. We are experiencing more frequent severe storms because of climate change that the fossil fuel companies' product caused. If we don't hold these companies accountable now, it will be too late when (not if) a monster storm hits RI (think of the old fuel storage tanks along Allen's Ave)!

Fossil fuel companies can afford to clean up the mess they made. Their profits are at record levels and growing. Fossil fuel companies knew many decades ago that their products were causing toxic pollution and were contributing to more severe climate change. Just like the tobacco industry, they buried the evidence for decades, but are now being sued across the country and many states are enacting Superfund laws to hold them accountable for cleaning up their mess now and after the inevitable severe storms they helped cause. Let's make RI another one of the States to enact a Superfund Law.

Since the bill was held and not voted on in 2025, please bring the bill to a vote on the House floor in 2026. It will pass and our state will be get much needed reparations from fossil fuel companies that can afford to pay their fair share.

Thank you very much for considering my input, and thank you to Representative Boylan for introducing this important bill.

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