

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

March 22, 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). This legislation is a core principle necessary for the Act on Climate to make headway. As citizens of a coastal state, Rhode Islanders are especially vulnerable to rising sea levels. Seniors, children, low-income and minority communities are most at risk. The same goes to those living in more low-lying areas like Fox Point that are closer to bodies of water. It is the responsibility of the state and municipalities to continue developing and implementing to counteract, mitigate and prevent the negative effects of climate change. The healthy and safety of Rhode Islanders depends on this. So far the costs of these plans have fallen solely on taxpayers, while the major fossil fuel companies who have done the most damage have not yet paid the economic costs of their actions. This Act is a remedial cost-recovery measure that compensates public entities for expenditures made necessary by the conduct of responsible fossil fuel companies.

Sincerely,

Malcolm Streitfeld

93 Grand View St, Providence, RI.

Rhode Island Climate Coalition