

next gen buildings 2026

**SUBJECT: Support for House Bill No. 7081** (Next Generation Buildings)

FROM: Bill Ibelle, co-chair Climate Action RI politics team  
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Chairman Bennett and members of the committee:

This bill should be a no brainer. It costs the state nothing. It costs ratepayers nothing. It is common sense legislation that moves us forward on our clean energy transition in a year when costly legislation will be difficult to pass.

This legislation prevents the instillation of fossil fuel heating systems in new government buildings including public schools and universities. It also applies to major renovations. If our goal is to decrease carbon emissions in the state, why on earth would we allow a new building to install a fossil fuel furnace? It just makes sense to require new construction to use clean energy.

This is an easy win. Let's grab it.