



State of Rhode Island
Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos

March 25, 2026

Representative David A. Bennett
Chair, House Environment and Natural Resources Committee House
82 Smith St, House Lounge
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Letter of Opposition for H7531: An Act Relating To State Affairs And Government -- 2021 Act On Climate

Dear Representative Bennett:

I write to you in strong opposition to H7531: An Act Relating To State Affairs And Government -- 2021 Act On Climate. This bill senselessly seeks to do away with the 2021 Act on Climate.

The 2021 Act on Climate represents years of hard work and advocacy on the part of neighbors, advocates, nonprofits, city and state officials, legislators, and more to set a benchmark for a Rhode Island that has clean air to breathe, clean water to drink, healthy and robust natural ecosystems, and residential and commercial communities free from dangerous pollutants. Reaching that future requires hard work, substantial regulatory change, and it requires the 2021 Act on Climate.

At a time when the federal government is recklessly stripping away climate protections, causing irreparable damage to our forests, waterways, plains, and mountains, we need stronger climate protections, not weaker ones. This isn't a niche issue—every single one of us will face the impacts of hotter summers, winters filled with blizzards—like the one we just experienced—increased flooding, and more.

I stand with all those who fought to get this bill across the finish and all those who continue to benefit from mitigating the impacts of climate change. For this reason, I urge you to continue to hold this bill for further study.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sabina Matos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sabina Matos
Rhode Island Lieutenant Governor



State of Rhode Island
Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos

March 25, 2026

Representative David A. Bennett
Chair, House Environment and Natural Resources Committee House
82 Smith St, House Lounge
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Letter of Opposition for H7531: An Act Relating To State Affairs And Government -- 2021 Act On Climate

Dear Representative Bennett:

I write to you in strong opposition to H7531: An Act Relating To State Affairs And Government -- 2021 Act On Climate. This bill senselessly seeks to do away with the 2021 Act on Climate.

The 2021 Act on Climate represents years of hard work and advocacy on the part of neighbors, advocates, nonprofits, city and state officials, legislators, and more to set a benchmark for a Rhode Island that has clean air to breathe, clean water to drink, healthy and robust natural ecosystems, and residential and commercial communities free from dangerous pollutants. Reaching that future requires hard work, substantial regulatory change, and it requires the 2021 Act on Climate.

At a time when the federal government is recklessly stripping away climate protections, causing irreparable damage to our forests, waterways, plains, and mountains, we need stronger climate protections, not weaker ones. This isn't a niche issue—every single one of us will face the impacts of hotter summers, winters filled with blizzards—like the one we just experienced—increased flooding, and more.

I stand with all those who fought to get this bill across the finish and all those who continue to benefit from mitigating the impacts of climate change. For this reason, I urge you to continue to hold this bill for further study.

Sincerely,

Sabina Matos
Rhode Island Lieutenant Governor



State of Rhode Island
Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos

March 25, 2026

Representative David A. Bennett
Chair, House Environment and Natural Resources Committee House
82 Smith St, House Lounge
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Letter of Opposition for H7531: An Act Relating To State Affairs And Government -- 2021 Act On Climate

Dear Representative Bennett:

I write to you in strong opposition to H7531: An Act Relating To State Affairs And Government -- 2021 Act On Climate. This bill senselessly seeks to do away with the 2021 Act on Climate.

The 2021 Act on Climate represents years of hard work and advocacy on the part of neighbors, advocates, nonprofits, city and state officials, legislators, and more to set a benchmark for a Rhode Island that has clean air to breathe, clean water to drink, healthy and robust natural ecosystems, and residential and commercial communities free from dangerous pollutants. Reaching that future requires hard work, substantial regulatory change, and it requires the 2021 Act on Climate.

At a time when the federal government is recklessly stripping away climate protections, causing irreparable damage to our forests, waterways, plains, and mountains, we need stronger climate protections, not weaker ones. This isn't a niche issue—every single one of us will face the impacts of hotter summers, winters filled with blizzards—like the one we just experienced—increased flooding, and more.

I stand with all those who fought to get this bill across the finish and all those who continue to benefit from mitigating the impacts of climate change. For this reason, I urge you to continue to hold this bill for further study.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sabina Matos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sabina Matos
Rhode Island Lieutenant Governor