



May 27, 2026

The Honorable David A. Bennett
Chairman
House Environment and Natural Resources Committee
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

HouseEnvironmentandNaturalResources@rilegislature.gov

Oppose H 7911

Dear Chairman Bennett and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, I write in opposition to H 7911.

We are concerned about the economic and operational impacts this proposal could have on Rhode Island businesses, employers, and consumers.

Rhode Island businesses are already navigating rising costs associated with inflation, energy, insurance, labor shortages, and ongoing supply chain pressures. Adding additional regulatory requirements and compliance obligations at this time risks increasing costs for employers of all sizes and further impacting affordability for Rhode Islanders.

We are particularly concerned that the proposal could create unintended consequences for businesses operating across multiple states by establishing requirements that differ from neighboring jurisdictions. Regulatory inconsistency increases administrative burdens and can place Rhode Island at a competitive disadvantage when businesses make decisions about investment, expansion, and job growth.

In addition, many small and medium-sized businesses lack the staffing and resources necessary to absorb new reporting, operational, or compliance mandates without passing those costs along to consumers.

The Chamber supports collaborative, balanced approaches that protect the environment while also maintaining Rhode Island's economic competitiveness and supporting business growth. We

believe additional stakeholder engagement and further study are warranted before advancing legislation that may have significant economic implications across multiple sectors.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Committee to hold H 7911 for further study.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized, continuous line that starts with a horizontal stroke, then curves upwards and to the right, then drops sharply to a horizontal line that extends to the right.

Laurie White
President
Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce