



April 10, 2026

The Honorable Marvin L. Abney
Chairman
House Finance Committee
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chairman Abney,

My name is Megan Baker, and I am the Vice President of Engagement at the Green Building Initiative (GBI).

I am writing regarding the proposed amendments to The Green Buildings Act outlined in HB 7127 Article 3, Section 3.

GBI is a 501(c)(3) ANSI Standards Developing Organization whose mission is to improve the built environment's impact on climate and society. GBI's certification system, [Green Globes](#), is a science-based whole building rating system and assessment program that evaluates the environmental sustainability, health and wellness, and resilience of all types of public and commercial real estate.

GBI supports the amendments to The Green Buildings Act outlined in HB 7127. However, we respectfully request that the Committee consider the adoption of clarifying language to streamline the Act's references to the Green Globes standard, and ensure that public schools in the state can use Green Globes to meet the green building certification requirement.

GBI encourages the Committee to update the language to ensure that references to green building standards include both LEED and Green Globes. The current structure of the Act recognizes Green Globes as an equivalent green building standard, however, repeated references to the LEED standard without mention of Green Globes may contribute to confusion and lack of awareness in the marketplace that Green Globes is also an approved standard to meet the requirements of this statute.

GBI believes that clear and comparable recognition of Green Globes will help foster a healthy, competitive marketplace for the use of green building standards in compliance with the Act. Given the national recognition of Green Globes and its use across all building types, we also encourage the Committee to include Green Globes alongside LEED as an approved standard for public school facility projects. Green Globes has been used to certify over 6.5 million square feet of space in K-12 schools across the country, and it is well suited to guide and support the design and construction of healthier, more sustainable educational facilities.

Amending the Act's references to the Green Globes standard will benefit the state by ensuring that state agencies, municipalities, and public schools have a clearer understanding of the tools at their disposal to meet the requirements of this statute. Greater choice and competition will help deliver sustainable, high-performance buildings for the people of Rhode Island in a cost-effective manner.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Megan Baker