

Testimony Supporting H7127 Article 6 – Question 5: Green Economy and Clean Energy Bond

Barbara Walsh, 62 Frederick Street, Warwick, RI 02888

Date of Hearing: February 25, 2026

To: Chair Abney and the Honorable Members of the House Finance Committee

I am asking that you provide an additional \$10 million to the Green Bond. Its current focus on economic development and recreation is perfectly acceptable and desirable, but is insufficient for protecting the forests, farmlands, and open spaces so desperately in need of conservation. It is quite disheartening to know that the Audubon Society of RI and land trusts have tried to purchase properties they deem to be of high ecological value, but could not because DEM matching funds were fully distributed. RI voters greatly support protection of such assets and value wildlife/habitat and farm environments. Please allow voters to again show their support by adding these monies to the bond so our citizens can vote their beliefs in the next election.