

Dear Chair Abney and members of the Committee,

I am submitting testimony on **Article 6 Question 5** of the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget. Energy efficiency can directly lower utility bills for homeowners, and for all Rhode Islanders. However, allocating energy efficiency funding via a bond is not an assured or consistent source of funding for these critical programs. Please stay with the commitment we need to reliably meet our climate goals.

I have been a proud supporter of Rhode Island's pioneering efforts to shift our energy sources, conserve energy more effectively, and develop energy storage capacity and utilization. I have done my own part by installing solar panels, heat pumps, and a Powerwall battery system as well as driving EVs. I urge the committee to recognize the essential long-term benefits of these transitions, and maintain my pride in my beautiful little state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John F Stevenson

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