



March 5, 2026

Hon. Marvin Abney
Chair
House Committee on Finance
HouseFinance@rilegislature.gov

Re: Support for HB 7127 - Article 6 Question 5: The Green Bond.

Dear Chair Abney,

BuildRI is a domestic non-profit trade association comprised of four (4) contractor associations (the Labor Relations Division of the RI Chapter of the Associated General Contractors, the New England Mechanical Contractors' Ass'n, the RI Mason Contractors' Ass'n, and the RI and Southeast MA Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors' Ass'n), and seventeen (17) Local Trade Unions representing an approximately 10,000 local tradesmen and women. On behalf of our organization, I write in **SUPPORT, with suggestions**, of the above referred to legislation for the reasons that follow.

We support Article 6: Question 5, which includes \$10 million for energy efficiency infrastructure within the Green Bond. However, we urge the General Assembly to increase this investment to \$25 million, to prioritize funding for the following initiatives:

- Utility-scale geothermal infrastructure
- Distributed energy resources
- Solar installations on public schools
- Transportation planning

Strategic investments in these areas would accelerate emissions reductions while creating a robust, in-state pipeline of jobs for the men and women of the building trades, and business opportunities for our contracting partners. Investing in energy efficiency infrastructure not only advances Rhode Island's climate goals but also strengthens our local workforce and economy.

While bond funding is an important tool, it should complement, not replace, consistent investments that sustain long-term employment in renewable energies industry.

Thank you for your attention to this correspondence. Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anthony J. Cherry".

Anthony Cherry
Assistant Executive Director
Build Rhode Island