



TO: Chair Abney and Members of the House Finance Committee
FROM: Jon Miller, Newport Solar, North Kingstown, Rhode Island
RE: Support for H.7506, with Recommended Amendment
DATE: April 9, 2026

Chair Abney and Members of the House Finance Committee:

My name is Jon Miller, and I am writing on behalf of Newport Solar, a Rhode Island-based solar company, in strong support of H7506.

This bill would exempt from Rhode Island sales tax behind-the-meter batteries interconnected with a solar photovoltaic system. That is a practical and important step that would help reduce the cost of installing battery storage for Rhode Island homeowners and businesses.

From our perspective as a local installer, battery storage is becoming an increasingly important part of a resilient and modern energy system. Batteries can help customers prepare for outages, improve the value of their energy investments, and support a more flexible electric grid. Upfront cost, however, remains one of the biggest barriers to adoption.

We also respectfully recommend a small amendment to broaden the bill so that the sales tax exemption applies not only to behind-the-meter batteries interconnected with solar photovoltaic systems, but also to stand-alone behind-the-meter batteries. In practice, stand-alone battery systems can deliver many of the same resilience and grid benefits, and they should receive the same tax treatment.

Rhode Island already exempts a range of renewable energy products from sales tax. Extending that treatment to all qualifying behind-the-meter battery systems would be a sensible next step that better reflects how energy storage is being deployed today.

We respectfully urge the Committee to pass H7506, ideally with this amendment.

Kind Regards,
Jon Miller
Newport Solar