



RIEEA

Rhode Island Environmental
Education Association

10 Davol Square, Suite 100
Providence, Rhode Island 02903
RIEEA.org

Jeanine Silversmith

On Behalf of the Rhode Island Environmental Education Association

In Support of H-7966 – THE EXTREME TEMPERATURE WORKER PROTECTION ACT

House Labor

Monday, March 30, 2026

The Rhode Island Environmental Education Association (RIEEA) supports **H-7966**, and respectfully urges its passage.

Education remains an essential, yet frequently underemphasized, means of addressing the climate crisis and related environmental challenges. Notably, a recent article in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences¹ identified strengthening climate education and public engagement as one of six critical societal transformations required to confront the climate crisis effectively.

The development of a comprehensive training on temperature safety for employees who work in warehouses, in vehicles, or outdoors at farms, recreation and fishing sites, and other places in Rhode Island, will help with the identification of risk factors, signs, and symptoms of extreme temperature-related illnesses, which are becoming more and more common due to the climate crisis.

The RIEEA membership includes over 400 individuals including youth and students as well as 79 organizations² including Audubon Society of Rhode Island, Save The Bay, the Rhode Island Conservation Districts, and Rhode Island College. RIEEA's membership and supporters care deeply about Rhode Island's natural places, our health, and environmental and economic stability. **I encourage you to pass this important legislation, H-7966.**

¹ <https://www.pnas.org/content/117/5/2354>

² <https://www.rieea.org/about-us/organizational-members/>