

March 30, 2026

Representative Arthur J. Corvese  
Chair, House Labor Committee  
Rhode Island State House  
Providence, RI 02908

**Re: The Nature Conservancy Supports H 8311 & H 7966 on Extreme Temperature Protection for Workers**

The Nature Conservancy supports House Bill 8311 and House Bill 7966, which would provide protections for workers in extreme temperatures. We thank Representative Dawson and Representative Morales for sponsoring the bills.

The Nature Conservancy is a global organization dedicated to conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends. Here in Rhode Island, The Nature Conservancy protects more than 15,000 acres of land and has partnered on the permanent conservation of more than 35,000 acres.

TNC recognizes we cannot be in service of our mission to protect land and water without seriously addressing climate change. Both around the world and locally in Rhode Island, temperatures are rising to historic levels. The 10 hottest years on record globally were all within the last decade, and Rhode Island has seen significant increases in summer temperatures in the last 10 years. In 2022, Rhode Island experienced the fourth-hottest July on record and the hottest August on record, with urban areas experiencing significant heat island effect.

A strong workforce is critical to the Rhode Island economy, and ensuring workers are safe in a changing climate is imperative to our economic and social well-being as a state. The Nature Conservancy is an active participant and steering committee member of Climate Jobs Rhode Island – a coalition of environmental and labor organizations working towards a sustainable future. We recognize workers are at the forefront of the climate transition, and a just transition to a clean energy economy cannot be achieved without providing safety and peace of mind for those who are doing the work and their families.

These bills ensure that folks at the forefront will have common-sense protections in extreme temperatures, which are increasingly frequent in Rhode Island. We stand with our partners in the labor movement and respectfully request the passage of these bills.

Sincerely,



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The Nature Conservancy, Rhode Island Chapter  
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