



CENTRAL COVENTRY FIRE DISTRICT

Office of Chief of Department

**Chief Kevin Cady
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**Steve Sepe
Committee Clerk**

January 27, 2026

RE: H7135

As Chief of the Central Coventry Fire District, I support Bill H7135 because it will assist all firefighters and first responders across the state, to identify locations where electric and hybrid-electric vehicles are located. Lithium-ion batteries pose a significant challenge to firefighters and knowing the location will help the responding apparatus determine if they need to request additional resources to the location. History has proven that fires involving lithium-ion batteries require substantial amounts of water and additional resources to extinguish. I believe that a database available to all departments and dispatch centers along with an identification method will be beneficial to the public and the first responders by making it possible to mitigate a hazard that involves electric powered vehicles.

I would like to request that the House State Government and Elections Committee support the House Bill H7135 which will provide the Rhode Island fire service with a crucial tool to use in incidents involving lithium-ion batteries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Cady", written over a horizontal line.

Chief Kevin Cady

Cc: Representative Earl Read