

Angel's Opposition to House Bill 7235

1/25/2026

To The Chair and Members of the House State Government and Elections Committee.

My name is Angel Lopez and I am Providence resident. I am writing to you in opposition to House Bill 7235. I do not support the proposed amendment to RI General Laws §42-64 and reiterate that the approval of a nuclear power plant within the state of Rhode Island must remain exclusively with the General Assembly. As we all are aware, the General Assembly is made up entirely of elected officials who represent all 39 municipalities in Rhode Island.

Based on my interpretation of where this amendment fits within all the General Laws of Rhode Island, House Bill 7235 would allow Commerce Corporation to approve and push to remove any procedural controls that are in place today to protect RI residents and our environment.

Today, there are zero commercial nuclear power plants in RI. Also, only two active commercial nuclear plants remain in New England, since the most recent decommissioning of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant on the shores of Cape Code Bay in 2019. If future advances in nuclear technology are known to be beneficial for the land, water, wildlife, and all the residents of Rhode Island, exclusive approval of such power plant should remain within the RI General Assembly.

I request all members of the House State Government and Elections Committee to continue to steward the best interests of all your constituents within your respected Districts by voting to hold and reject House Bill 7235. The approval or Denial of a nuclear plant should remain the same as the approval or denial of a new oil refinery, exclusively with the General Assembly.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Angel Lopez
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