

Testimony in support of H7998: RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- 2021  
ACT ON CLIMATE

George Voutes, 17 Shore Road, Bristol RI, 02809

Date of Hearing: April 7, 202

To Chairman Shanley and members of the House State Government & Elections  
Committee,

The Governor should be held accountable to his proposed 2026 budget that will negatively impact reaching RI's greenhouse gas reduction mandates of the 2021 RI Act on Climate.

The Governor assumes that utility rate savings will happen with his budget, but offers no explanation of the climate considerations undertaken to move the state towards the Act on Climate goals. This is not an acceptable practice, especially from the Governor of RI. H7998 will require the Governor to report on how budget cut from the annual budget will impact the Act on Climate mandates. This level of government transparency and accountability is essential for the residents of RI, and this is why I support the bill.

Please bring the bill to a vote in 2026.

Thank you very much for considering my input, and thank you to Representative Tanzi for introducing this important bill.

*George Voutes*

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