

SB-2631  
PUC  
Amendment



**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**  
**Public Utilities Commission**

89 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, Rhode Island 02888  
(401) 941-4500

Chairman Ronald T. Gerwatowski  
Commissioner Abigail Anthony  
Commissioner Karen M. Bradbury

April 28, 2026

The Honorable Robert Britto  
Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Senate Bill 2631 – Public Utilities Commission Study

Dear Chair Britto:

I am submitting the following comments on behalf of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) on Senate Bill 2631 which requires the PUC and Division of Public Utilities and Carriers to produce a joint comprehensive study report for the general assembly by April 30, 2027.

Understanding the drivers behind utility rates is important to understanding how cost controls may be implemented. However, the PUC respectfully suggests that it would be more efficient for the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (Division) to undertake this project. Additionally, if the Division identifies cost control opportunities during the study, but before the report is issued, the Division can raise them for PUC consideration immediately. From a due process perspective, this would be better than the PUC (decision-maker) and Division (party) discussing such proposals prior to consideration by the PUC. Therefore, we respectfully recommend striking the public utilities commission from the bill.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 401-780-2147 or [cynthia.wilsonfrias@puc.ri.gov](mailto:cynthia.wilsonfrias@puc.ri.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Cynthia G. Wilson-Frias", is positioned above the typed name and title.

Cynthia G. Wilson-Frias  
Chief of Legal Services

cc: Senator Patalano