



March 31, 2026

The Honorable Robert Britto
Chairman – Senate Committee on Commerce
State House
Providence, R.I. 02903

RE: S 2646 – Rhode Island Insurance Market Protection Act

Dear Chairman Britto:

The Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (“Division”) and the Office of Energy Resources (“OER”) appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on Senate Bill No. 2646. The Division and OER respectfully oppose this legislation.

As proposed, Senate Bill No. 2646, the “Insurance Market Protection Act,” would mandate significant changes to insurance underwriting and investment in fossil fuel companies and projects. The proposed legislation could result in numerous downstream impacts that effect energy affordability and reliability for all Rhode Island ratepayers. Specifically, we note the broad scope and definitions may restrict typical, needed pipeline maintenance and replacement, in addition to the broader fossil fuel market changes contemplated within. Such restrictions could impact fuel delivery safety and reliability at a time when ratepayers and households requiring delivered fuel heating products are already challenged by energy affordability.

The Division and OER are concerned that these significant, market-level changes to insurance underwriting may result in unintended disruptions to ratepayers and delivered fuel customers, and we respectfully request that the legislation is considered in tandem with energy affordability, safety, and reliability considerations. For these reasons, we request that the Committee reject this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Linda George'.

Linda George, Esq.
Administrator, RI Division of Public Utilities and Carriers



Chris Kearns
Acting Commissioner, Office of Energy Resources

CC: Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce
Honorable Dawn Euer
Kristen Silvia, Director of Legislation and Deputy Chief of Staff