

From: [Courtney Ward](#)
To: [Rep. Casimiro, Julie A.](#); [Rep. Craven, Robert E.](#); [Sen. Valverde, Bridget G.](#); [Sen. DiMario, Alana](#); [S Legislation](#); [Sen. Britto, Robert](#); [Sen. Sosnowski, V. Susan](#); [Sen. Bell, Samuel W.](#); [Sen. Famiglietti, Stefano V.](#); [Sen. Gallo, Hanna M.](#); [Sen. Gu, Victoria](#); [Sen. Kallman, Meghan E.](#); [Sen. Mack, Tiara T.](#); [Sen. Morgan, Elaine J.](#); [Sen. Pearson, Ryan W.](#); [Sen. Tikoian, David P.](#); [Sen. Lawson, Valarie J.](#); [Sen. Ciccone III, Frank A.](#); [Sen. de la Cruz, Jessica](#)
Subject: Support for Amended S3224 and S3225
Date: Monday, May 4, 2026 10:04:43 PM

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Dear Committee Members and Senate Leadership,

I am writing as a Rhode Island constituent to express my strong support for S3224 and S3225, which propose a ban on the pyrolysis of solid sludge at the Quonset Business Park and the establishment of a Study Commission for sludge processing. While I support these measures, I strongly advocate for the removal of the expiration dates associated with these bills to ensure long-term protection and oversight.

I am unable to attend the hearing due to my work schedule; therefore, I request that this written testimony be included in the official record and shared with the committee members.

As a resident living less than a mile from the proposed West Davisville site, I am deeply concerned by its proximity to residential neighborhoods and schools. This project presents significant risks to our environment and public health. Current monitoring standards are reactive rather than proactive; we would not be notified of contaminants—such as PFAS, mercury, or cyanide—until long after exposure has occurred. Furthermore, the proposed facility sits atop a sole-source aquifer, where any leak would have irreversible consequences for our water supply.

Beyond environmental concerns, the surrounding infrastructure is insufficient for this project. Local roads have weight restrictions and cannot accommodate the volume of heavy truck traffic required, posing a safety risk to the community. Additionally, the company has repeatedly failed to address deficiencies in its DEM wetland permit application and has reportedly performed work without proper permitting.

Rhode Island should not serve as a testing ground for pyrolysis, a relatively new and controversial technology that other states are already restricting due to safety and health concerns. Given these concerns, I urge you to:

- Support and strengthen the ban on sludge pyrolysis at Quonset.
- Remove the sunset clauses from the ban and the study provisions to ensure permanent, enforceable compliance.
- Conduct a comprehensive, statewide review of sludge management solutions rather than concentrating risk in a single, sensitive location.

While the need for sludge processing is urgent, we must prioritize safe, proven, and logical solutions that do not disproportionately endanger a single community or its natural resources.

Thank you for your time and your service to our state.

Sincerely,

Courtney Ward
North Kingstown, Rhode Island