

Senate Environment and Agriculture Meeting, April 15, 2026
Performance Standards senate testimony SLegislation@rilegislature.gov

In favor of S-2218 Performance Standards (for large buildings)

My name is Jim Sedgwick and I live in West Warwick.

Buildings account for more than a third of emissions in Rhode Island. This bill provides building owners the flexibility to reduce emissions in ways that work best for them. It costs nothing for ratepayers and adds only a moderate cost to the state. It creates jobs here in Rhode Island for contractors installing heat pumps and solar panels and weatherizing buildings. Most importantly it moves us away from reliance on expensive natural gas.

This bill works in tandem with the benchmarking bill to achieve necessary improvements over the next two decades. Because it only applies to large buildings, it won't impact homeowners or small businesses. Please vote in favor of S2218.

Sincerely, Jim Sedgwick,
West Warwick