



Submitted via email

April 15, 2026

The Honorable V. Susan Sosnowski
Chair, Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture
State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

RE: S-2359 An Act Relating to Public Utilities and Carriers – Portable Solar Generation Devices

Dear Chair Sosnowski and Members of the Committee:

The Office of Energy Resources (OER) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on S-2359. OER supports this legislation. In the past few months, over thirty states as well as the District of Columbia have introduced legislation that would advance portable solar generation devices, also known as plug in solar or balcony solar. Two of these states, Utah and Virginia, have passed legislation, and Virginia's legislation is currently awaiting signature by Governor Spanberger.

Energy affordability is on the top of Rhode Islander's minds now. Portable solar is an easily accessible and low-cost option for many people to help reduce their electricity costs. This is especially true for renters and multifamily housing that don't have many options for using solar. Traditional rooftop solar systems typically require owning a home, complex permitting, rooftop favorable solar exposure and high upfront costs. This legislation would allow access to solar across income levels and housing types. It also gives individuals more choice and control over their electricity bill.

For these reasons, OER respectfully requests that the Committee pass this legislation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chris Kearns
Acting Commissioner
Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources

CC:

Senator Valverde
Members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture
Kristen Silvia, Director of Legislation and Deputy Chief of Staff