

**Trafton testimony in behalf of the Environment Council of Rhode Island supporting S2531  
Senate Environment and Agriculture Committee, April 29, 2026.**

Dear Chair Sosnowski and Honorable Committee Members,

I'm Peter Trafton from Providence, Co-VP of Policy for the Environment Council of Rhode Island (ECRI) writing with strong support of S2531, the Plastic Waste Conversion Facility Act, by Sen. Ujifusa and colleagues.

High-temperature plastic waste conversion facilities continue to be promoted by the plastics and petrochemical corporations. Every year now they go from state legislature to state legislature seeking lawmakers whom they might persuade that such technologies are a valid answer to dealing with the ever-increasing amount of waste that their products become. Too often, they capture another state by suggesting that plastic recycling will save the day. Unfortunately, this does not work but does pollute the air.

As we have in years past, ECRI urges you to avoid such plastic recycling scams in our state. Regrettably one actually was passed by the Senate recently. Fortunately, it was successfully blocked by the house. Please support S2531 and instead limit our creation of plastic waste by other means – avoiding single use plastics and creating meaningful beverage container recycling programs.

The relevant science and the experience in other states with attempted plastic recycling both support this bill. Please help pass it to avoid the annual visits by plastic “recyclers”.

Thanks very much for considering my comments in ECRI's behalf.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "PTrafton". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

Peter Trafton  
Co-VP for Policy  
The Environment Council of Rhode Island