



**TO:** Environment & Agriculture Committee  
**FROM:** Jon Miller, Newport Solar, Newport, Rhode Island  
**RE:** Support for H.7726  
**DATE:** April 14, 2026

Environment & Agriculture Committee:

My name is Jon Miller, and I am writing on behalf of Newport Solar, a Rhode Island-based solar company, in strong support of H.7726, the Solar Cost Reduction Act.

Every day, we see firsthand how permitting delays, inconsistent requirements, and prolonged review timelines slow projects, increase costs, and create unnecessary friction for Rhode Island homeowners and small businesses who are ready to move forward with solar. These barriers are not about safety or quality. They are administrative inefficiencies that directly impact affordability and access.

H.7726 addresses this head on. By enabling automated plan review, instant permitting for qualifying systems, and remote inspections where appropriate, this bill modernizes a process that is currently outdated and inconsistent across jurisdictions. It removes unnecessary delays while maintaining the safety and code standards that protect our communities.

For companies like ours, this is not theoretical. Time lost in permitting is time not spent installing projects, serving customers, and supporting local jobs. For customers, these delays translate directly into higher costs and missed opportunities to reduce energy bills. In a moment where energy affordability and grid resilience matter more than ever, Rhode Island cannot afford to let process inefficiencies stand in the way.

H.7726 is a practical, immediate solution that will lower costs, accelerate deployment, and strengthen Rhode Island's clean energy economy.

We respectfully urge the Committee to pass H.7726 out of committee with a recommendation for passage.

Kind Regards,  
Jon Miller  
Newport Solar