

Jamie Plume

From: Peter Trafton <pgtrafton@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 3:05 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Trafton Testimony AGAINST sections of H 71274 today's hearing.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Testimony of Peter Trafton, Providence Rhode Island, in opposition to several sections of this year's budget bill 7127.

Dear Chair DiPalma and members of the Senate Finance Committee,
I write in opposition to the following sections of the bill:

In the green economy and clean energy bonds section (article 6 – page 3, line 23) the bill provides additional energy efficiency funding, but only for this bond cycle. It is capped and in a bond incentive in the existing energy efficiency program and is thus likely to limit significantly the measures that ratepayers might appropriately access. Essentially, this \$10 million bond is way below the necessary funding required for an adequate energy efficiency program at a time when we are trying to save money spent on energy. Efficiency reduces the use of energy – more effective than other attempts to save money.

In article 11 section 3 (relating to affordability) the gas and electricity efficiency program is capped at \$75 million annually. This is a significant reduction of the descending levels seen in 2026 and 2025, totally reprehensible at a time when efficiency, as stated above, our best way to reduce expenditures for energy. It also provides more comfortable homes and thus promotes the use of smaller amounts of energy. It also reduces the number of jobs created in Rhode Island for energy efficiency. This is all well documented in the energy efficiency councils annual reports which should be recommended to the governor and his staff.

In article 11, section 7, page 18, the text extends the renewable energy standard to 2050 and reduces its compliance. This is totally out of context with the act on climate and is a headlong rush to reduce are available renewable energy. Unfortunately this now is the least expensive type of energy in America.

In article 11 section 10 beginning on page 28, adjustments of solar incentives and addition of a costly grid excess fee deviate from the understanding of Rhode Island's solar energy firms and acts as a powerful disincentive. This too is irresponsible and will prevent our states development of essential renewable energy resources.

Thank you very much for considering my input.

Please support the thoughtful efforts to maintain Rhode Island's renewable energy developments.

Respectfully,

Peter Trafton
Peter Trafton

Jamie Plume

From: Timmons Roberts <jtimmonsroberts@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 4:03 PM
To: Senate Finance; Rep. Boylan, Jennifer; Rep. Knight, Jason; Sen. Lauria, Pamela J.
Subject: Opposing climate cuts in Budget Proposal

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Written Testimony: H7127: Appropriations for the Support of the State for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2027, Hearing Date February 10, 2026

By: Timmons Roberts, Providence (Speaking as an individual, not for my institution.)

I would strongly object to the gutting of Rhode Island's climate laws which would result from passage of H7127: Appropriations for the Support of the State for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2027. The legislature needs to stand up and rewrite this budget.

Gutting RI's climate laws will not make the pain you are experiencing go away. Over 75% of electricity bill increases are due to the price of natural gas, so if key statutes are dismantled, we'll end up with the worst of both worlds: not doing our share on climate/ruining the economic model the state developed for making this transition, while still having high utility rates. This will not make getting re-elected in the fall easier--in fact, it could become a major liability with voters in your district.

Top of the list of problematic proposals in the budget proposal is rolling back the 100% Renewables by 2033 law to 2050. This would make it nearly impossible for the state to meet its Act on Climate goals, since those are economy-wide, and the electricity sector is the easiest part of that economy to decarbonize.

Second, cutting or capping energy efficiency support in the state is extremely short-sighted. These programs help Rhode Islanders lower their

utility bills, and there are crucial areas of weakness remaining in our programs, in need of this funding.

I also think the budget and new Executive Order are a power-grabs by the Governor, usurping the legislature's ability to shape climate policy in the state. Rhode Island's legislature spent twenty years building its climate laws, through tough sessions and careful compromise. To hurl that that work overboard in a moment of panic is surrendering your power.

It also is sad to see the state allow such deceptive discourses to influence our climate policy. I appreciate your standing up for the work you and your colleagues have done to establish the state's climate laws.

Again, the pain won't go away from slashing these efforts--utility bills are mostly driven by natural gas prices.

Best,
Timmons Roberts
Providence

Jamie Plume

From: Bart Lloyd <wbllloyd@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 5:48 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: H7127 - Opposition.

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You don't often get email from wbllloyd@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Testimony in opposition to H7127: Appropriations for the Support of the State for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2027, Hearing Date February 10, 2026

I have lived in Rhode Island since 1983, raised a family and three children here, and am a registered voter.

I write in opposition to H7127:

- 1) I object to the proposed rollback of the renewable energy standard. This is a key part of our climate strategy, it is achievable, and it is important that we meet these goals.
- 2) I object to adding any new or additional costs to solar projects. This is also a key part of our climate strategy. If anything - we should be making solar more accessible and more affordable. The majority of the funds spent on solar stay in RI and support jobs in RI. The majority of the funds spent on fossil fuels go to Texas and Saudi Arabia - and support jobs there.
- 3) I object to any reduction of funding for weatherization, or clean energy transition costs for residents and/or companies - as these reduce our energy demand - which makes the rest of our energy more affordable.
- 4) Clean energy is healthier for all of our residents. Natural gas is an environmental poison that makes our planet and our citizens unhealthy. We need to wean ourselves of its usage.

Thank you.

W. Bart Lloyd
16 Chestnut St.
Newport, RI 02840

--
Bart
Cell: 857-231-1042

Jamie Plume

From: Linda Brennan <lincrobrennan@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 1:22 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: McKee's plan to gut RI's Clean Energy Plan

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I am alarmed at McKee's plan to gut RI's plan to move forward with clean energy under the guise of making electricity more affordable for Rhode Islanders. Clear energy is the future, and offers a much more sustainable and affordable alternative for our state.

Obviously, this move is propelled the lobbying efforts of the electric company rather than by any concern for our citizens.

Sincerely,

Linda Crotta Brennan
Coventry, RI

Sent from my iPad

Jamie Plume

From: David Roberts <David.Roberts@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 4:44 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: The Energy efficiency, renewable energy standard, and net metering programs

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[You don't often get email from david.roberts@messages.clf.org. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Committee Members,

As a Rhode Island resident, I know what it feels like to get an energy bill that's way more expensive than I expected it to be. And this is happening more often than I'd like. I know that some people are struggling, having to choose between keeping their lights on and homes warm or putting food on the table. This isn't fair, and that's why we can't let Governor McKee slash funding to critical programs that help lower energy bills.

Please reject the proposal to permanently cut the Energy Efficiency program. Lowering energy demand across the state not only saves people like me money on an individual level, but it can also lower electricity rates for everyone. Plus, the program is required to show it works. And it does, with every dollar we spend on efficiency returning three dollars of savings.

Please say no on the Governor's proposed tax on families and businesses who use rooftop or other small-scale solar panels. We need to incentivize people to produce clean energy with these panels. They help us keep prices low and electricity reliable when we need it the most, like during heat waves. Imposing a tax would wipe away any financial benefit of operating these panels, disincentivizing them instead.

And finally, please reject the complete rollback of our Renewable Energy Standard. The government has a law demanding cuts to toxic pollution overheating our planet and hurting our health. This program is one of the most significant ways the government can meet the law. Not to mention, clean energy is affordable energy. The more we have online, the cheaper and more stable our energy bills will be.

Thank you,

David Roberts

Jamie Plume

From: Mary Bandura <Mary.Bandura@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 4:46 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Rhode Islanders want clean and affordable energy

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[You don't often get email from mary.bandura@messages.clf.org. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Committee Members,

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Thank you,

Mary Bandura

Jamie Plume

From: Henry Atterbury <Henry.Atterbury@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 4:50 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Say "no" on McKee's energy budget cuts

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[You don't often get email from henry.atterbury@messages.clf.org. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Committee Members,

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Thank you,

Atterburyhc@aol Hank

Jamie Plume

From: Katharine Stark <Katharine.Stark@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 5:10 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Rhode Islanders want clean and affordable energy

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[You don't often get email from katharine.stark@messages.clf.org. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Committee Members,

As a Rhode Island resident, I know what it feels like to get an energy bill that's way more expensive than I expected it to be. And this is happening more often than I'd like. I know that some people are struggling, having to choose between keeping their lights on and homes warm or putting food on the table. This isn't fair, and that's why we can't let Governor McKee slash funding to critical programs that help lower energy bills.

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Thank you,

Katharine Stark

Jamie Plume

From: danainprov <danainprov@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 5:27 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Support Clean Energy!

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February 10, 2026

To:
Senate Finance Committee
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Article 11, Section 7:

There must be no delay to the Renewable Energy Standard. We do not have time to waste. At a time when federal support for clean energy is decreasing, RI must do everything in its power to encourage rapid transition to renewable energy. This must include allowing plug in solar!

Article 11, Section 3:

Energy efficiency programs must not have a cap. . Having just benefited from RISE home insulation program, and having noticed a huge difference in warmth in my old two family house, I absolutely advocate for continued access to energy efficiency programs of all types for Rhode Islanders. We must be actively working to drive down energy costs.

Sincerely
Dana Holmgren
Cranston RI

Jamie Plume

From: Rayna Ciano <Rayna.Ciano@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 5:46 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Say "no" on McKee's energy budget cuts

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[You don't often get email from rayna.ciano@messages.clf.org. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Committee Members,

As a Rhode Island resident, I know what it feels like to get an energy bill that's way more expensive than I expected it to be. And this is happening more often than I'd like. I know that some people are struggling, having to choose between keeping their lights on and homes warm or putting food on the table. This isn't fair, and that's why we can't let Governor McKee slash funding to critical programs that help lower energy bills.

Please reject the proposal to permanently cut the Energy Efficiency program. Lowering energy demand across the state not only saves people like me money on an individual level, but it can also lower electricity rates for everyone. Plus, the program is required to show it works. And it does, with every dollar we spend on efficiency returning three dollars of savings.

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Thank you,

Rayna Ciano

Jamie Plume

From: Diana Fox <Diana.Fox@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 5:54 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: The Energy efficiency, renewable energy standard, and net metering programs

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Dear Committee Members,

As a Rhode Island resident, I know what it feels like to get an energy bill that's way more expensive than I expected it to be. And this is happening more often than I'd like. I know that some people are struggling, having to choose between keeping their lights on and homes warm or putting food on the table. This isn't fair, and that's why we can't let Governor McKee slash funding to critical programs that help lower energy bills.

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Thank you,

Diana Fox

Jamie Plume

From: Eric Heupel <Eric.Heupel@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 6:32 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Rhode Islanders want clean and affordable energy

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Dear Committee Members,

As a Rhode Island resident, I know what it feels like to get an energy bill that's way more expensive than I expected it to be. I am also an oceanographer, focused on issues of climate change and species distributions. The governor's proposed tax is a direct attack on Rhode Islanders, the environment, and all of our futures. I strongly urge you to block this insanity.

Please reject the proposal to permanently cut the Energy Efficiency program. Lowering energy demand across the state not only saves people like me money on an individual level, but it can also lower electricity rates for everyone. Plus, the program is required to show it works. And it does, with every dollar we spend on efficiency returning three dollars of savings.

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Thank you,

Eric Heupel

Jamie Plume

From: Rich and Jane Schweinsburg <RichandJane.Schweinsburg@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 6:36 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Say "no" on McKee's energy budget cuts

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Dear Committee Members,

As a Rhode Island resident, I know what it feels like to get an energy bill that's way more expensive than I expected it to be. And this is happening more often than I'd like. I know that some people are struggling, having to choose between keeping their lights on and homes warm or putting food on the table. This isn't fair, and that's why we can't let Governor McKee slash funding to critical programs that help lower energy bills.

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Thank you,

Rich Schweinsburg

Jamie Plume

From: Johnathan Berard <Johnathan.Berard@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 6:42 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: The Energy efficiency, renewable energy standard, and net metering programs

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Dear Committee Members,

As a Rhode Island resident, I know what it feels like to get an energy bill that's way more expensive than I expected it to be. And this is happening more often than I'd like. I know that some people are struggling, having to choose between keeping their lights on and homes warm or putting food on the table. This isn't fair, and that's why we can't let Governor McKee slash funding to critical programs that help lower energy bills.

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Thank you,

Johnathan Berard

Jamie Plume

From: Sophia Michalopoulos <Sophia.Michalopoulos@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 8:10 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Say "no" on McKee's energy budget cuts

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Dear Committee Members,

As a Rhode Island resident, I know what it feels like to get an energy bill that's way more expensive than I expected it to be. And this is happening more often than I'd like. I know that some people are struggling, having to choose between keeping their lights on and homes warm or putting food on the table. This isn't fair, and that's why we can't let Governor McKee slash funding to critical programs that help lower energy bills.

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Thank you,

Sophia Michalopoulos

Jamie Plume

From: Arthur Hurwitz <Arthur.Hurwitz@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 8:10 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: The Energy efficiency, renewable energy standard, and net metering programs

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Dear Committee Members,

As a Rhode Island resident, I know what it feels like to get an energy bill that's way more expensive than I expected it to be. And this is happening more often than I'd like. I know that some people are struggling, having to choose between keeping their lights on and homes warm or putting food on the table. This isn't fair, and that's why we can't let Governor McKee slash funding to critical programs that help lower energy bills.

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Thank you,

Arthur Hurwitz

Jamie Plume

From: Claudia Gorman <Claudia.Gorman@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 9:36 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Say "no" on McKee's energy budget cuts

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Dear Committee Members,

As a Rhode Island resident, I know what it feels like to get an energy bill that's way more expensive than I expected it to be. And this is happening more often than I'd like. I know that some people are struggling, having to choose between keeping their lights on and homes warm or putting food on the table. This isn't fair, and that's why we can't let Governor McKee slash funding to critical programs that help lower energy bills.

No to a tax on rooftop solar panels.

No to cutting the Energy Efficiency program.

No to reducing the Renewable Energy Standards.

Claudia Gorman

Please reject the proposal to permanently cut the Energy Efficiency program. Lowering energy demand across the state not only saves people like me money on an individual level, but it can also lower electricity rates for everyone. Plus, the program is required to show it works. And it does, with every dollar we spend on efficiency returning three dollars of savings.

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Claudia Gorman

Jamie Plume

From: Scott Fertik <Scott.Fertik@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 10:08 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: The Energy efficiency, renewable energy standard, and net metering programs

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Dear Committee Members,

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And finally, please reject the complete rollback of our Renewable Energy Standard. The government has a law demanding cuts to toxic pollution overheating our planet and hurting our health. This program is one of the most significant ways the government can meet the law. Not to mention, clean energy is affordable energy. The more we have online, the cheaper and more stable our energy bills will be.

Thank you,

Scott Fertik

Jamie Plume

From: Jennifer Farmer <Jennifer.Farmer@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 10:42 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Rhode Islanders want clean and affordable energy

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Committee Members,

As a Rhode Island resident, I know what it feels like to get an energy bill that's way more expensive than I expected it to be. And this is happening more often than I'd like. I know that some people are struggling, having to choose between keeping their lights on and homes warm or putting food on the table. This isn't fair, and that's why we can't let Governor McKee slash funding to critical programs that help lower energy bills.

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Thank you,

Jennifer Farmer

Jamie Plume

From: Mary Worobec <Mary.Worobec@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 8:46 AM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: The Energy efficiency, renewable energy standard, and net metering programs

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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[You don't often get email from mary.worobec@messages.clf.org. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Committee Members,

As a Rhode Island resident, I know what it feels like to get an energy bill that's way more expensive than I expected it to be. And this is happening more often than I'd like. I know that some people are struggling, having to choose between keeping their lights on and homes warm or putting food on the table. This isn't fair, and that's why we can't let Governor McKee slash funding to critical programs that help lower energy bills.

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Thank you,

Mary Worobec

Jamie Plume

From: Albert Gamble <Albert.Gamble@messages.cif.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 8:50 AM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Rhode Islanders want clean and affordable energy

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[You don't often get email from albert.gamble@messages.cif.org. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Committee Members,

As a Rhode Island resident, I know what it feels like to get an energy bill that's way more expensive than I expected it to be. And this is happening more often than I'd like. I know that some people are struggling, having to choose between keeping their lights on and homes warm or putting food on the table. This isn't fair, and that's why we can't let Governor McKee slash funding to critical programs that help lower energy bills.

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Thank you,

Albert Gamble

Jamie Plume

From: Dave Sungarian <dsungarian@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 9:26 AM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Rhode Island's Clean Energy Programs

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Dear Chair DiPalma and members of the Committee,

My name is David Sungarian and I live in Portsmouth, RI.

I am submitting testimony in opposition to Sections 3, 7 and 10 in Article 11 of the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Budget. To meet our Act on Climate emissions reductions, we must take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support deployment of clean energy. These budget sections slash investment in energy efficiency and clean energy, and move RI further away from meeting our climate mandates.

Thank you,
David

Jamie Plume

From: Stephanie Sloman <Stephanie.Sloman@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 10:10 AM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Say "no" on McKee's energy budget cuts

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Dear Committee Members,

As a Rhode Island resident, I know what it feels like to get an energy bill that's way more expensive than I expected it to be. And this is happening more often than I'd like. I know that some people are struggling, having to choose between keeping their lights on and homes warm or putting food on the table. This isn't fair, and that's why we can't let Governor McKee slash funding to critical programs that help lower energy bills.

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Thank you,

Stephanie Sloman

Jamie Plume

From: Dave Sungarian <dsungarian@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 9:28 AM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Article 6 Question 5 of the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Chair DiPalma and members of the Committee,

My name is David Sungarian and I live in Portsmouth, RI.

I am submitting testimony for Article 6 Question 5 of the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget. Energy efficiency can directly lower utility bills for homeowners and for all Rhode Islanders. Allocating energy efficiency funding via a bond is not an assured or consistent source of funding for these critical programs.

Thank you,
David

Jamie Plume

From: John Buron <johnburon@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 10:36 AM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Article 6 Question 5: Green Economy and Clean Energy Bonds

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You don't often get email from johnburon@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Chair DiPalma and members of the Committee, my name is John Buron and I live in Warwick. I am submitting testimony Article 6 Question 5 of the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget. Energy efficiency can directly lower utility bills for homeowners and for all Rhode Islanders. Allocating energy efficiency funding via a bond is not an assured or consistent source of funding for these critical programs.

Thank You
John Buron

Jamie Plume

From: Albert Gamble <Albert.Gamble@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 11:38 AM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Rhode Islanders want clean and affordable energy

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Thank you,

Albert Gamble

Jamie Plume

From: Stephen O'Connell <Stephen.OConnell@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 11:56 AM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Say "no" on McKee's energy budget cuts

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Dear Committee Members,

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Thank you,

Stephen O'Connell

Jamie Plume

From: Debra Daigneault <Debra.Daigneault@messages.clf.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 12:02 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: The Energy efficiency, renewable energy standard, and net metering programs

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Dear Committee Members,

As a Rhode Island resident, I know what it feels like to get an energy bill that's way more expensive than I expected it to be. And this is happening more often than I'd like. I know that some people are struggling, having to choose between keeping their lights on and homes warm or putting food on the table. This isn't fair, and that's why we can't let Governor McKee slash funding to critical programs that help lower energy bills.

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Thank you,

Debra Daigneault

Jamie Plume

From: Victoria Leytin <vleytin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 1:49 PM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: Fwd: Testimony in opposition to H7127

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Victoria Leytin, MD
531 Puncatest Neck Rd, Tiverton RI 02878
Date of Hearing Feb 10, 2026

To Chair DePalma and the members of the Senate Finance Committee

Though time constraints force me to be brief today, I cannot be emphatic enough about the importance of opposing H7127.

Such short sighted bills will cost tax payers money over the long term, while stealing their health and wellbeing. We must be fighting to promote renewable energy and doing all we can to reduce our dependence on polluting fossil fuels. A recent study showed that the adoption of electric vehicles causes a significant decrease in ambient pollution levels - we can see this in real time. Those who live by highways and are exposed to higher levels of pollution have more asthma, heart attacks, strokes, and die earlier.

Cutting programs to reduce reliance on natural gas will worsen pollution, reduce the number of jobs in RI and continue our reliance on a polluting, finite and expensive resource. There are better and cheaper alternatives available - sunshine and wind!

Please help to keep kids with asthma out of the hospitals. I have put breathing tubes in far too many people whos asthma and lung disease was worsened by pollution and heat.

How can McKee justify going back on the goals of the Act of Climate which will protect all Rhode Islanders?

Please oppose this bill.
Thanks you for your attention