

Testimony in support of S2244: Sales and Use Taxes – Batteries for Solar

Dr. Hans Scholl, 71 Fales Avenue, Barrington, RI 02806

Date of Hearing: May 21, 2026

To Chair DiPalma and the honorable Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I support the bill because it is important to incentivize behind the meter battery storage for solar installations, because

- they reduce the amount of electricity flowing into the grid during times when solar generation exceeds the electricity usage at the metered location, and
- they also reduce the amount of electricity flowing from the grid into the metered site when there is no solar electricity generation (e.g. at night).

As a result, battery storage reduces the necessary size of the electric grid, and it reduces the associated cost of building and maintaining the grid. Battery storage makes the grid more affordable to all rate payers, including those that don't even have solar or a battery.

In addition, batteries increase resilience during power outages, and they also support programs that flatten peak demand like Rhode Island Energy's "Connected Solutions", which also benefit all rate payers.

Please bring the bill to a vote in 2026.

Thank you very much for considering my input, and thank you to Senator Valverde for introducing this important bill.



Dr. Hans Scholl

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