

Environment Council of Rhode Island

Green Report Card

**2025
&
2026**

Climate
Progress Stalls
at the State
House

Rhode Island
Must Act
Quickly to Get
Back on Track



Over the past two years Rhode Island has mostly failed to act on climate, and now the state urgently needs to make up for lost time. Meanwhile, progress has continued on other important issues thanks to environmental champions in the General Assembly.

See Inside:

- A report on Rhode Island's climate progress
- Environmental champions in the State House
- Wins and missed opportunities in 2025 and 2026
- Looking ahead to the next two years
- Appendices summarizing grades for legislators

Executive Summary

In our last Green Report Card, the Environment Council of Rhode Island (ECRI) said that the state and its General Assembly needed to take stronger and more decisive action to meet our commitments under the Act on Climate. Sadly, **our progress has only slowed over the past two years**. Governor McKee's administration followed a **disappointing 2025 Climate Action Strategy**—a “plan” that listed potential policy options but failed to recommend or commit to any specific course of action—by **attempting to roll back previous climate progress**, including Rhode Island's renewable energy standard. Environmental advocates found themselves playing defense at a time when progress needs to accelerate.

While the passage of the Act on Climate in 2021 was a major milestone for Rhode Island, we must remember that it represented a beginning rather than an end point. It is critical that we **follow through on the commitments made in the Act on Climate** by ensuring adoption of the policies necessary to meet our climate goals. As we look ahead to the 2027 legislative session, it's essential for the state and the General Assembly to take stronger and more decisive action to do our part to mitigate the climate crisis and protect our environment. While it is true that a new federal administration has made addressing the climate crisis more difficult, this cannot be an excuse for inaction. State policymakers still have a number of tools at their disposal.

Despite this, the 2025 and 2026 legislative sessions brought **some significant wins**—such as new advancements in standards for labor and workforce development, legislation requiring thermal energy network pilots, new protections against dangerous chemicals like PFAS and rodenticides, a stronger and greener Green Bond, new protections against invasive plants species, and the creation of a new infrastructure fund for resiliency projects. These successes are exciting and help to advance ECRI's long-standing mission to protect and enhance Rhode Island's environment.

ECRI emphasizes that the environmental achievements of the past two years are significantly due to the commitment and remarkable efforts of environmentally concerned members of both the Senate and the House. In this report, we will highlight many of the legislators whose advocacy made the difference.

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The Environment Council of Rhode Island (ECRI) is a coalition of over 60 organizations plus individual members committed to developing and advocating for policies and laws that protect and enhance our state's environment for the benefit of all Rhode Islanders. We wish to thank our many members who generously donated their time and expertise to the preparation of this Green Report Card.

The Council works to embody and promote the vision that together we can build an ecologically healthy future in a sustainable economy. ECRI provides its members with a forum for sharing information and technical expertise, and provides policymakers and the public with informed opinions and position statements. Founded in 1972, ECRI is the Rhode Island affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation. Guided by our strategic plan, ECRI is working to emphasize and address issues of climate and environmental injustice across our advocacy efforts.

Each legislative session, our members convene monthly to vote on our collective agenda—deciding which environmental bills to support, oppose, and prioritize. To share our agenda with legislators, we host two signature events at the State House each year: a February “Coffee Hour” event, and ECRI Lobby Day in April. Throughout the session, we meet with lawmakers and submit testimony at hearings to educate and advocate for legislation that protects and enhances Rhode Island's environment.



Photo: Geralyn Hoey, ECRI Coffee Hour, RI State House Library

Legislative Highlights

Environmental Justice

ECRI is working to emphasize and address issues of climate and environmental injustice across our advocacy efforts. All residents of Rhode Island have a right to a clean

and healthy environment. Yet too often communities where people of color, low-income people, and limited English proficient speakers live and work experience higher rates of pollution, disease, and other public health emergencies. For instance, people of color in Rhode Island are much more likely to be exposed to nitrogen dioxide outdoor air pollution. Compared to other states across the U.S., Rhode Island had the 6th largest pollution exposure gap between white people and non-white people. Furthermore, most areas designated as disadvantaged in Rhode Island are majority non-white and low-income.

Systemic injustice related to race and economic status has and will continue to

exacerbate climate impacts such as flooding, pollution, increased allergens with warmer weather, and respiratory illness, amplifying the disparities these residents face. ECRI believes that legislation and administrative actions must center the needs of those most impacted by climate change including Black, Brown, Indigenous, and other communities of color, and low-income and disabled people facing deep inequities from decades of disinvestment.

Unfortunately, Rhode Island has seen very little progress in addressing environmental justice over the last two years.

The Environmental Justice Act of 2025 (S-1038), introduced by **Senator Dawn Euer**, would have required consideration of environmental justice and cumulative impacts in some state permitting processes. It failed to receive a hearing.

Representative Matthew Dawson and **Senator Louis DiPalma** introduced a bill (H-8311 | S-2320) that would require employers to protect their employees from extreme temperatures, which will pose a greater threat as climate change worsens in coming years. Unfortunately, the bill failed to become law in either 2025 or 2026.

A bill (H-7880 | S-2280) sponsored by **Representative Scott Slater** and **Senator V. Susan Sosnowski** would have created Percentage of Income Payment Plans (or “PIPPs”) for low-income Rhode Islanders struggling to pay their utility bills, but it failed to pass in both 2025 and 2026. Fortunately, low-income utility consumers may experience some relief soon. **The Public Utilities Commission (PUC)** recently approved a settlement agreement in the ongoing Rhode Island Energy rate case, revising the low-income discount rate program to provide more substantial discounts for low-income electricity customers.

Another bill (H-7890 | S-2727), sponsored by **Representative Jennifer Stewart** and **Senator Jonathan Acosta**, sought to create an intervenor compensation program at the PUC and **Energy Facility Siting Board (EFSB)**. Individuals and communities affected by PUC and EFSB decisions often find it difficult to participate in cases before these agencies, as they may not be able to afford legal representation and expert witnesses. The proposed program would fund these costs for qualifying parties. While the bill did not pass, language was included in this year’s budget directing the PUC to propose an intervenor compensation program to be funded in next year’s budget.

Labor & Workforce

As the state works toward meeting its clean energy and climate goals, there must be intentional action that ensures any investments create family-sustaining careers, support workers,

and expand opportunities for Rhode Islanders. Climate policies are strongest when they not only reduce emissions, but also create economic opportunity, strengthen local communities, and ensure workers share in the benefits of the clean energy transition.

The 2026 legislative session included a handful of workforce victories. The Project Labor Agreement legislation (H-7972A | S-2735A) introduced by **Representative Evan Shanley** and **Senator John Burke** strengthens labor standards on large public construction projects and requires that at least 15% of labor hours be performed by registered apprentices. This will help create more opportunities for workers to enter the trades while ensuring that public investments support high-quality jobs.

The General Assembly also passed the Thermal Energy Networks & Jobs Act (H-7879A | S-3080B) introduced by

Representative Terri Cortvriend and **Senator Robert Britto**. This legislation authorizes and directs Rhode Island Energy to identify potential thermal energy network projects and develop pilot programs to heat and cool multiple buildings through shared underground infrastructure. The law establishes a stakeholder task force that will issue an advisory report that considers workforce development, labor standards, environmental justice, and economic benefits as projects move forward. Thermal energy networks can create substantial demand for skilled union labor, particularly for pipefitters, laborers, steelworkers, utility workers, and other building trades workers, while helping reduce emissions from the building sector.

Legislation to protect workers from extreme heat and cold, discussed above in the Environmental Justice section, did not pass in 2026, despite climate-related illnesses increasing as we continue to see the impacts of climate change. Similarly, failing to pass legislation to improve indoor air quality in Rhode Island schools represents a missed opportunity to improve learning environments for students while creating additional work for skilled workers. As Rhode Island continues its clean energy transition, ensuring strong labor standards, worker protections, and access to training opportunities are crucial to building an

economy that works for both workers and communities.



Climate & Energy

In ECRI's last Green Report Card, published in 2024, we noted that there was still a great deal of work to do to put the state on track to achieve the emissions

reductions required by the Act on Climate, and declared it essential that our elected officials take stronger and more decisive action to address the climate crisis. At the time, many environmental advocates hoped that the state's next **Climate Action Strategy**, due to be released at the end of 2025, would chart a clear path forward, and perhaps lay the groundwork for climate policy wins in the 2026 legislative session.

Sadly, Rhode Island has made very little progress on climate in the intervening two years. During that time, state policymakers have faced strong headwinds from a federal administration that denies climate science and actively discourages clean energy development. However, a great deal

remains in the state's control. Rhode Island cannot stop working to address the climate crisis simply because President Trump wants us to.

Environmental advocates' hopes for the 2025 Climate Action Strategy were dashed when the report was released by the **Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council (EC4)** in December 2025. Far from articulating a clear vision for achieving the emissions reductions required by the Act on Climate, the Climate Action Strategy merely lists a number of potential climate policy options that the state could choose to implement. In the document, the EC4 fails to recommend or commit to any specific policies or course of action. While the EC4 held a number of public engagement sessions in 2025, it did not release a draft of the plan until days before the statutory deadline for the adoption of a final plan, meaning that there was no meaningful opportunity to review or comment on the plan before it was officially adopted.

While we had hoped that the release of the Climate Action Strategy might act as a catalyst, prompting **the McKee administration** to champion strong climate policy in the 2026 legislative session, we were deeply disappointed to see that the Governor's 2026 climate agenda consisted of proposed rollbacks of existing climate progress. In his budget, **Governor McKee**

proposed substantially delaying and weakening the state's Renewable Energy Standard, cuts to state renewable energy programs, and limiting spending on energy efficiency—a program statutorily guaranteed to save Rhode Islanders more on their utility bills than it costs to implement.

These proposed cuts were part of a misguided effort to lower utility bills. While cutting these programs would technically lower bills in the short term, over the long term it would keep Rhode Island dependent on fossil fuels with high and volatile prices—the real cause of increasingly unaffordable energy bills. Much like trying to save money on car maintenance by skipping oil changes, failing to update our energy system and slowing the clean energy transition in the hope that doing so will create short-term savings is ill-advised, and will make energy more expensive for Rhode Islanders in the long-term.

Fortunately, these attempted rollbacks were mostly stopped thanks to the tireless efforts of climate champions in the General Assembly, including **Representative Lauren Carson**. She and **Senator David Tikoian** introduced an alternate proposal for changes to the renewable energy standard (H-8519 | S-2764A), attempting to better balance the need to address energy affordability with the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This legislation

helped to influence the final budget, which also rejected proposed limits to energy efficiency. ECRI wishes to thank those who worked to protect Rhode Island's climate progress in this year's budget, including the newly elected **Speaker of the House Christopher Blazejewski**.

ECRI also wishes to thank the legislators who have exercised oversight to ensure that the state meets its commitments under the Act on Climate, including the members of the Special Legislative Commission to Study the Successful Implementation of the Act on Climate, chaired by **Senator Samuel Zurier**. In 2026 the House passed a resolution (H-7344A) sponsored by **Rep. Cortvriend** to create a permanent commission on climate change impacts and solutions.

Bills related to transportation and buildings, the state's two largest sources of emissions, are discussed below.



Transportation

Rhode Island's transportation sector has consistently been under-resourced over the past several years. As a result, ECRI prioritized a group of bills collectively

called the "Save RIPTA" Package in both 2025 and 2026, aiming to secure sustainable, long-term funding for the **Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA)** and reverse disruptive bus service cuts. Although RIPTA was technically fully funded in the FY2027 budget, it was only "fully funded" to the inadequate standard set over the previous few years.

The FY2026 budget delivered devastating cuts to the agency, reducing service routes and cutting staff. This impacts the mobility of all Rhode Islanders, but especially those who rely on RIPTA for critical trips, like getting to work, school, and medical appointments. The budget cuts also cut off access to the outdoors by reducing weekend service to state beaches and parks. All residents of the Ocean State should be able to recreate where they like, and RIPTA service cuts directly impede their ability to do so.

While RIPTA was fully funded this fiscal year, the agency was funded at the level of the FY2026 budget. This means that all the service and route cuts are still in effect and those who rely on public transit continue to face hurdles moving throughout the state. A lack of funding and reduction in service reinforces the transit “death spiral,” whereby fewer routes means fewer riders, which means less revenue for the agency. This creates the appearance of a transit system that has low ridership, when the lack of ridership is really caused by the instability in service.

The lack of leadership from **Governor McKee** on supporting public transit has directly translated to the underfunding of the agency, and consistent undervaluing of public transit as a whole. Robust, sustainable public transit is a cross-sector issue, impacting environmental justice and emissions from the transportation sector. Transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the state. To reduce emissions and meet the requirements of the Act on Climate, Rhode Island needs transit-focused policies that ensure sustainable and reliable funding, supporting a transportation system that residents can rely on.

It is worth noting that the state’s most important existing policy to reduce emissions from the transportation sector—

the Advanced Clean Cars II and Advanced Clean Trucks regulations adopted by the **Department of Environmental Management (DEM)** in 2023—is under threat. Congress has attempted to revoke the authority of states to implement stronger emissions regulations under the Clean Air Act by exercising its power under the Congressional Review Act. A number of states have challenged Congress’ action, arguing that it exceeded its authority under the law. While the issue is still in litigation, Rhode Island needs to be prepared for any outcome, and must plan to make up for lost emissions reductions in the event that it can’t move forward with these regulations.



Buildings

Like transportation, the buildings sector is a major contributor to Rhode Island’s greenhouse gas emissions. In ECRI’s last Green Report Card, we noted that while the

state had introduced major legislation and regulations to address emissions from the electricity and transportation sectors, we had made relatively little progress

decarbonizing our buildings. We are disappointed to report that two years later, that has not changed.

While there are many potential policy options for reducing the emissions associated with heating our homes and businesses, in the past few years environmental advocates have coalesced around a bill called the Building Decarbonization Act. This bill—one of ECRI’s top priorities in 2024 and 2025—would require energy usage reporting and the creation of building performance standards for large existing buildings, and phase out reliance on fossil fuels in new buildings.

In 2026, the Building Decarbonization Act was split into two bills: the Building Benchmarking and Reporting Act (H-7183 | S-2260) and the Building Performances Standards Act (H-7184 | S-2218), both sponsored by **Representative Rebecca Kislak** and **Senator Meghan Kallman**. In a major victory for climate policy, the Building Benchmarking and Reporting Act—which would create an energy-use reporting requirement for large buildings—passed both chambers with overwhelming margins. Celebration was short-lived however, as Governor McKee chose to veto the bill, dealing a blow to the state’s efforts to meet its commitments under the Act on Climate. The bill’s sponsors and environmental

advocates held a press conference to call on the General Assembly to reconvene and override the Governor's veto.

Despite this disappointment, the 2026 legislative session did see a couple of building sector policy wins. The Senate passed a resolution (S-2354) sponsored by **Sen. DiMario** calling on the **PUC** to consider reforming subsidies for new gas connections in the ongoing Rhode Island Energy rate case. These subsidies incentivize Rhode Islanders to commit to gas and gas appliances, rather than cleaner alternatives. The issue is still being considered by the PUC. The Thermal Energy Networks & Jobs Act, discussed above in the Labor and Workforce section, also became law.



Food & Agriculture

Legislation (H-8144 | S-3231) spearheaded by **Representative Megan Cotter** and **Sen. DiPalma** added \$3 million in farmland preservation funding to the

Green Economy Bond as part of the 2026 budget. This funding, which had been

excluded from the Governor’s proposed budget, is vital to protecting Rhode Island’s farms. For more discussion of the Green Bond, see the Land, Forest, and Shore section, below.

2026 also saw the passage of the Urban and Small Farm Success Act (H-7242 | S-2827), which levels the playing field for farmers with under five acres of land—the fastest growing segment of farms in Rhode Island. This legislation, sponsored by **Representative Michelle McGaw** and **Senator Tiara Mack**, levels the playing field by extending to small farms the same tax benefits already afforded to farmers with more than five acres of land. This will help sustain small farms as they provide local sources of food to their communities.



Water & Toxics

In the 2025 legislative session, the General Assembly passed several bills designed to protect Rhode Islanders from the effects of toxic chemicals like PFAS—a group of

widely-used, long-lasting chemicals known to pose serious risks to human health even

in very small amounts. These include legislation (H-5019 | S-241) sponsored by **Representative June Speakman** and **Senator Walter Felag** prohibiting PFAS in firefighting gear, legislation (H-5844 | S-650) sponsored by **Rep. Cortvriend** and **Senator Alana DiMario** requiring testing of biosolids for PFAS, and legislation (H-5293 | S-324) sponsored by **Representative Raymond Hull** and **Sen. DiMario** creating a public education program for textile recycling.

During the 2026 legislative session advocates continued their work on water protection and toxics policy, with a strong focus on defending prior victories and safeguarding public health.

A top priority was protecting Rhode Island’s 2024 PFAS ban, which prohibits the use of harmful “forever chemicals” in consumer products, including cookware. During the session, the chemical industry pushed legislation (S-2792 | H-7621) that would have created a loophole allowing PFAS in Teflon-coated pans. Rhode Island environmental advocates successfully opposed this effort, preventing an exemption that would have undermined the law’s intent. Teflon products are widely associated with PFAS and microplastics; over time, these coatings can chip and degrade, increasing the risk of microplastics entering food and being ingested.

Advocates also worked to stop another bill (S-2803) that would have weakened drinking water protections by reducing the frequency of backflow testing from annually to once every ten years. Regular backflow testing is essential to ensuring that contaminants do not enter the public water supply. Blocking this bill helped to maintain critical safeguards for clean and safe drinking water.



Waste

School composting legislation (H-7342A | S-2438A) sponsored by **Rep. Carson** and **Senator Bridget Valverde** was passed in 2026, requiring schools to

report on their compliance with the existing school composting law. This bill also clarified that “Share Tables” are authorized in schools, allowing students to donate unused/untouched items to fellow students. It further requires that school service providers bidding on food service contracts must provide composting services.

Two other composting bills sponsored by **Rep. Cortvriend** and **Sen. Valverde** received committee hearings in both chambers in 2026, but failed to become law. Legislation (H-7622 | S-2437) introduced for the first time this year would give **DEM** the authority to enforce the existing commercial Food Waste Ban on generators of over 102 tons of food scraps per year. Compost Fund legislation (H-7675 | S-2441), which has been introduced in each of the past three sessions, would create a \$2 per ton surcharge on waste going to the landfill. This bill picked up key support in 2026, and we hope that it will cross the finish line in 2027. With a rapidly filling central landfill, and landfills being the state’s third largest source of methane—a greenhouse gas 20-80 times more potent than carbon dioxide—these bills are important steps in addressing both climate and organic waste in our state.

Recycling reform legislation that would establish a deposit return system for single-use beverage containers and an extended producer responsibility (EPR) program for other single-use packaging remain top priorities for the state’s environmental and conservation communities. Legislation (H-6207A | S-996A) (H-6206 | S-997) introduced by **Representatives Carol Hagan McEntee** and **Tina Spears** and **Senators Mark McKenney** and **Valverde** reflects the recommendations of the *Special*

Joint Legislative Commission to Study and Provide Recommendations to Protect Our Environment and Natural Resources from Plastic Bottle Waste (also known as the “Bottle Bill Study Commission”) that met thirteen times from 2023 to 2025. **DEM** is completing an implementation analysis to explore in greater detail how such a system could—and should—be established, with a final report due in December 2026.



Land, Forest, & Shore

2025 and 2026 brought several important conservation and environmental protection bills to the forefront.

In 2025, the General Assembly passed updates to the Housing and Conservation Trust Fund Act (H-5310 | S-711), sponsored by **Rep. Speakman** and **Senator Jacob Bissaillon**, to re-establish and update the membership of a joint board focused on both land protection and responsible housing development. This legislation updates a 1990 law that recognizes the urgent need to provide collaborative land use planning in the Ocean State. This marks a step forward

in ensuring that housing, transit, environmental conservation, and agriculture can all thrive in Rhode Island. The bill doesn’t create any new source of funding, but does establish a dedicated fund within the **Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank**, allocating future funds to both housing and conservation projects, with a preference for projects that achieve both goals. Rhode Island is a small state, and land-use decisions require deep collaboration. We look forward to appointments being made to this board, and to the funding of future projects.

In 2026, the General Assembly also made strides in environmental protection for natural systems in Rhode Island.

The FY2027 budget proposed by **the McKee administration** included a \$50M “Green Economy Bond” with a collection of capital programs and projects that would be on the ballot for voters in the November 2026 election. This package of allocated funding for a number of important programs, including \$20 million for the newly established Resilient Rhody Infrastructure Fund, watershed protection for Narragansett Bay, brownfield remediation, and others. There was noticeably no funding for conservation programs.

Legislation (H-8144 | S-3231) sponsored by **Rep. Cotter** and **Sen. DiPalma**, proposed “making the Green Bond greener” by adding

\$17.5 million for conservation and other programs to the existing proposed bond. The bill included funding for state and local open space conservation programs, agricultural preservation, outdoor recreation grants, as well as funding for upgrades at Fort Adams state park and the Mariner Academy for the Girl Scouts of Rhode Island. This legislation was among ECRI's top priorities for the 2026 legislative session.

The final FY2027 budget included some, but not all, of the additions included in **Rep. Cotter** and **Sen. DiPalma's bills**. The final \$55 million Green Economy Bond included an additional \$5 million for the Resilient Rhody Infrastructure Fund, totaling \$25 million for climate resilience investments, as well as \$3 million for Agriculture & Land Preservation Grants and \$3 million for State Open Space Grants. ECRI is pleased by the addition of this funding, and looks forward to continued, sustainable funding for environmental protection in the future.

The Invasive Plant Management Act (H-7071 | S-2352) sponsored by **Representative Jennifer Boylan** and **Sen. McKenney** was also passed by the General Assembly in 2026. The Act prohibits the importation, sale, and distribution of non-native terrestrial plants. Invasive plants pose a substantial management issue for our forests and other protected areas by smothering and displacing native species

and disrupting ecosystem balances that healthy forests rely on. This makes Rhode Island the final state in New England (and the 46th state in total) to prohibit the sale of invasive terrestrial plants.

The 2026 session also brought new protections for wildlife, including a ban on harmful rodenticides in the state. Legislation (H-7222 | S-2795) sponsored by **Rep. Kislak** and **Senator Melissa Murray**, prohibits the use of anticoagulant rodenticides, designed to control rat populations. These poisons have had a significant impact up the food chain, killing predators like raptors and other birds of prey who eat the rodents targeted by the poison. This bill promotes the use of other pest control methods that do not harm birds or other wildlife. Rhode Island joins California as one of only two states to enact such a ban.

ECRI continues to support legislation to reform the **Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC)**, the agency charged with preserving and protecting Rhode Island's coast. The CRMC is currently led by a non-expert, politically appointed council that is free to ignore the recommendations of the agency's expert staff. Legislation (H-7996 | S-3082) introduced in 2026 by **Rep. Edwards** and **Sen. McKenney** would have eliminated CRMC's appointed council and merged

CRMC into DEM, making CRMC a part of a normal, accountable state agency.

Rep. Cortvriend and **Senator Victoria Gu** and continue to lead on issues related to shoreline access. Legislation (H-6093 | S-716) passed in 2025 makes it harder for cities and towns to reduce public parking near rights-of-way (ROWs) to the shore. In 2026, the General Assembly passed legislation (H-8110 | S-2734) requiring owners or landlords who rent shoreline property to provide their tenants—before the start of the tenancy—with a detailed, written disclosure regarding public shoreline access rights. The Assembly also passed legislation (H-5686 | S-626) in 2025, sponsored by **Representative Kathleen Fogarty** and **Sen. Gu**, requiring municipalities to maintain and update lists of CRMC-designated ROWs to the shore.

Progress on land conservation was not limited to the General Assembly. In 2026, the **DEM** made significant strides forward. In collaboration with the University of Rhode Island, DEM entered a 10-year agreement to revitalize the W. Alton Jones campus in West Greenwich. The 2,300-acre forested land in West Greenwich has been closed to the public since 2020, and this agreement will allow DEM to invest in infrastructure and necessary upgrades to provide public access and environmental education at the property after a 6-year closure. This

signifies a major milestone for environmental and habitat protection in RI.

The FY2027 state budget included a transfer of ownership of Big River Management Area (BRMA) to DEM from the Water Resources Board. BRMA covers 8,300 acres in Coventry and West Greenwich and is home to rich biodiversity including rare plant and animal species, as well as being one of the largest continuous forested areas in the state. DEM has been managing the property since the 1960s, but this transfer represents the designation of a definitive purpose of this land as conservation land for public benefit in perpetuity.



Resilience

In 2025, the General Assembly passed ECRI-supported legislation (H-6252 I S-1070), sponsored by **Rep. Cortvriend** and **Senate Majority Leader Frank**

Ciccone, establishing the Resilient Rhody Infrastructure Fund. This fund, hosted by the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank, provides funding for cities and towns to complete projects that make our state more resilient to flooding, coastal erosion, sea level rise, and other climate impacts. The fund builds upon the success of the Municipal Resilience Program and addresses the need for a sustainable financing model to address infrastructure needs as the Ocean State adapts to a changing climate. As a welcome follow-up, the FY2027 budget includes \$25 million for the fund in the Green Economy Bond.

January 2026 also saw the release and approval of Resilient Rhody 2025, Rhode Island's statewide resilience plan. This work was funded by a 2024 budget appropriation and was conducted in partnership between DEM and Arup Consulting Group. In 2025, a series of robust community and stakeholder engagement meetings were held, helping to

inform the 600-page final plan. The plan provides clear insight into the challenges that the Ocean State faces, as well as priority assets, solutions, and funding mechanisms. ECRI appreciates the work of the team who put this together and looks forward to implementation of the plan.



Photo: Thomas Werneken, Conimicut Light, Warwick, RI

Governor McKee's Administration

As discussed in the Climate and Energy section above, the past two years of climate policymaking in Rhode Island have been largely disappointing, and much of that comes down to the actions of Governor McKee and executive branch agencies. While Governor McKee has spoken out against some of the Trump administration's attacks on clean energy, including efforts to derail the Revolution Wind project, he has failed to follow up his statements with strong climate action here in Rhode Island.

The state's EC4 produced a deficient and incomplete Climate Action Strategy in December 2025, merely listing a number of potential climate policy options that the state could choose to implement, and failing to recommend or commit to any specific policies or courses of action. The Governor followed this lackluster report by pursuing a 2026 climate agenda that consisted of proposed rollbacks of existing climate progress. In his budget, Governor McKee proposed substantially delaying and weakening the state's Renewable Energy Standard, cuts to state renewable energy programs, and limiting spending on energy efficiency. These proposals, had they been enacted in full, would have made the

emissions reduction commitments of the Act on Climate nearly impossible to meet.

Governor McKee's proposed cuts and rollbacks to clean energy programs were, thankfully, largely rejected by the General Assembly. However, the Governor still managed to impede the state's climate progress at the close of the 2026 legislative session by vetoing the Building Performances Standards Act, eliminating a major potential advancement in reducing emissions from the heating of our homes and businesses.

At a time when clean energy and climate action are under attack at the federal level, states need strong leadership on climate. ECRI strongly hopes to see stronger climate leadership from the Governor's office, which will be crucial for achieving the mandates of the Act on Climate and addressing Rhode Island's broader environmental challenges. ECRI urges our executive branch leaders to build on past accomplishments and take bold, decisive actions in the coming years to pursue the implementation of the Act on Climate.

State Agencies

Progress in implementing the Act on Climate within state agencies has been uneven. The **PUC**, for instance, has shown that it takes its responsibilities under the Act on Climate seriously,

and has thoughtfully approached its duty to apply the statute in ruling on the matters that come before it. In contrast, the **Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (DPUC)**, an agency that regularly appears before the PUC and is charged with looking out for the interests of utility ratepayers, has disappointingly not shown the same commitment to helping the state meet its responsibilities under the Act on Climate. In

some dockets, the DPUC has openly said that it did not take the Act on Climate into account when developing its positions.

Over the past two years the **Office of Attorney General Peter Neronha** has continued to demonstrate that it views Act on Climate implementation as a priority. The Office, particularly the Environment and Energy Unit led by Nicholas Vaz, has been active in a number of state processes and agency dockets to advocate for strong climate policy and minimize any ratepayer impacts related to climate action. The Attorney General's Office also continues to pursue a case against major oil and gas companies for damages associated with climate change, and has worked with other states' attorneys general to challenge a number of the Trump administration's climate and clean energy policy and program rollbacks.



Photo: Beth Desrosiers, Arcadia Management Area

Looking Ahead

While we have achieved some significant wins in areas such as standards for labor and workforce development, thermal energy networks, the regulation of dangerous chemicals like PFAS and rodenticides, and funding for resiliency projects, a critical gap remains in our approach to emissions reduction. Specifically, we still lack comprehensive policies targeting the building sector, one of the three key areas—alongside transportation and electricity—that we must address to meet the goals of the Act on Climate.

The next two years will be critical for the Act on Climate, as each year of inaction makes our state's commitment to do our part to address the climate crisis harder to achieve. The good news is that there is no shortage of good policy ideas to address the problems we face. Some of these options can be found in the state's 2025 Climate Action Strategy.

Going forward, it is essential that we prioritize equity and justice in all our initiatives. The green and clean future we envision must be racially equitable and developed in collaboration with communities and laborers. Looking ahead to 2027 and beyond, we are committed to protecting both people and the environment. This involves working collectively across sectors to ensure that legislative progress reflects the urgency of climate action and implements innovative, intersectional solutions that improve the lives of Rhode Islanders while safeguarding our land, air, and water resources for future generations.



Appendices

Overview

Each annual session begins anew. A bill from a previous year must be reintroduced and go through the same procedures as bills being introduced for the first time. Each bill is drafted by a member of the chamber, often with direction and assistance from interested parties, and ultimately from the General Assembly (GA) legal staff. When fully prepared, the bill is filed, given a unique identifying number, and assigned to one of the standing committees by the House Speaker or Senate President. Promptly, the text of a new bill is made available to all legislators and the public by being posted on the GA website (<https://www.rilegislature.gov/>). In due course, a bill is

scheduled for a public committee hearing, with opportunities for interested parties to provide written and spoken testimony.

To become law, a bill must be passed by both houses of the GA. To accomplish this within the six-month length of a typical session (January-June), a pair of companion bills is often introduced more or less simultaneously. The texts may or may not be identical. There is no publication that indicates the existence or assigned number of companion bills. Such a list would help the public.

After being presented and discussed, bills are almost always voted to be held for further study, for consideration at a future date, or left in the committee with no action. Being left without action is the most common course for Rhode Island General Assembly bills involving the environment.

It is said that House and Senate leadership have the ultimate power to decide if a bill should advance for a floor vote. Public outreach to the Chair and members of involved committees, as well as to leadership, may influence a bill's likelihood of receiving such consideration. Substitutions and/or amendments may occur while the bill is in committee.

Committees are expected to vote on a bill's disposition, but records detailing such votes are harder to obtain than those of the full chamber floor votes. It is said that floor votes only occur when leadership supports a vote and expects the bill to pass.

This system makes it hard to determine the nature of a bill's opposition. The availability of video recordings of each committee and floor meeting, as well as submitted written testimony, are significant improvements to the openness for the legislative process, but many decisions are still made outside public view.

Summary of Appendices

Appendices 1 & 2:

2025 & 2026 Legislative Scorecards

For 2025 and 2026, this table identifies the number of bills submitted within each listed category, with Pass/Fail results, with some footnote details. We were happy to see the much-improved reception of 2026's Top Priorities and overall vote passage.

Appendices 3 & 4:

2025 & 2026 Legislative Agendas with results

These list each bill, supported or opposed, with brief descriptions, sponsors, assigned numbers, committee, and progress. Floor Vote results are listed in the results.

Appendices 5 & 6:

Senate Rankings and House Rankings

Total Scores, Ranks, and Grades for Senate and House, for individual legislators during the 2025 – 2026 General Assembly term.

Methodology & Interpretation

Why and How We Score and Grade Our Legislators

Rhode Island's Legislative Process

ECRI's Green Report Card (GRC) is released shortly prior to Rhode Island's biennial elections. This timing is not a coincidence. Though ECRI is not campaigning for individual GA members, nor for members of one political party or another, we do believe that a well-informed electorate is an essential component of our democracy. This includes awareness of the actions of our elected representatives.

We strive to help Rhode Islanders recognize the needs of our environment and the efforts we must make to protect it. We believe that the environment is for all of us to share and to care for, not to be controlled by or for a privileged few. Maintaining toxic waste dumps in South Providence, clearing privately-owned forests for solar farms or housing developments, bottom-trawling the ocean floor, and shoreline construction are among the activities that we must regulate fairly and effectively. Environmental protection is our responsibility. Environmental Justice is imperative. While many of these responsibilities fall to our elected government and its agencies, we retain responsibility and must monitor and guide our government rather than leaving it to its own devices.

As a Council composed of Rhode Island's environmental organizations and interested individuals, ECRI helps monitor our state's environmental policies and activities. Part of this work involves reviewing the GA's legislative actions. ECRI uses the introduced bills, and the recorded votes of the House and Senate as a partial measure of our legislators. But we believe that the GRC's narrative section provides essential depth and breadth that is not present in the numbers alone.

During each annual GA session, we review bills written to create or amend Rhode Island's laws. Each year ECRI makes a list of selected bills soon after their introduction. We designate some bills for support or opposition, after due consideration and with a vote. We limit our

recommendations to environmentally significant bills. If our members cannot create a majority, we take no position.

We share our list of bills with legislators and the public. It provides links to the bill texts. Combined with the legislature's website and automated information service, it provides access to environmental legislation and its progress. With the right bill numbers, one can identify committee hearings to testify in person or by email, and to support committee votes to obtain essential floor votes.

Our bill list is the basis for ECRI's expanded legislative agenda, which adds more information for each bill about its progress and ultimate result. These are the annual summaries of legislative results for the GRC (see Appendices 3 and 4).



Photo: Nils Huenerfuerst, Providence, RI

Methodology & Interpretation

ECRI's Methodology for Assessing Legislative Actions

Introduced Bills

For the GRC, we award score points to the sponsors of the listed bills. We select a small number of top priorities, as well as the general list. Top priority bills receive 4 points; the other agenda bills receive 3. The bills that ECRI supports receive positive points, with negative points for those we oppose. Legislators who have not sponsored a bill receive a 0 score. The points for each sponsor's bills are totaled and combined with voting results to yield a single two-year total score ranking each legislator. The environmental bills that legislators sponsor are an important component of our grading system. A legislator who votes for good environmental legislation and opposes bad bills may nonetheless receive a lower grade if they have not sponsored any environmental legislation.

Recorded Votes

Floor Votes, by the full House or Senate, are captured electronically and saved for public access on the general assembly's website, in a short form and an official Journal. Such votes occur for floor amendments if any and for passage of the bill itself. The number of floor votes for environmental bills is actually quite small. Most of our bills remain stuck in committees. In 2025, there were 14 floor votes for ECRI list bills in the House and 18 in the Senate, out of 68 introduced bills on our legislative agenda. In 2026, with 76 introduced bills, there were 14 floor votes in the House, 4 of which were top priorities. The Senate had 13 floor votes. 2 were top priorities.

Methodology & Interpretation

What Do ECRI's Green Report Card Scores Mean?

Score Supplements for House & Senate Presiding Officers and Majority Leaders

We recognize that each legislator carries a heavy burden and works tirelessly to fulfill their duties, much of which extend beyond environmental issues alone. Rhode Island's General Assembly is almost always a "part-time job." Little, if any, support staff is available for our rank-and-file legislators. We are grateful and respectful for all their efforts and accomplishments, whether or not we agree with their positions.

For each edition, ECRI's Green Report Card team considers whether or not adjustments should be made in the point scores for legislators with further reaching responsibilities and duties. This year we've chosen to award an additional 5 points to individuals who have been Speaker of the House, President of the Senate, or Majority Leader in either chamber, reflecting the critical role they play in the passage of all environmental legislation. We add these points to their introduced bills total score, thus influencing their totals for the two-year term.

ECRI identifies the bills that receive floor vote and records the vote of each member. Votes in agreement with ECRI's position receive positive score points, with negative points for those opposing our position. Points are totaled for members of each chamber to obtain two-year totals for bill sponsorship and voting. These two-year summaries are combined for a total score that is sorted into descending order – to provide a numerical score for each legislator. We then assign letter grades A+, A, B, C, D, and F, in descending order, to similar sized groups, adjusted so those with the same total scores are grouped together. There are 75 Representatives in the House, thus our goal is a 12.5 average size for grade groups. For the 38 Senators, our average group goal is 6.3. We post separate tables for each chamber, showing two-year totals for introduced bills and for floor votes, as well as a combined total which we sort in descending order and assign letter grades.

For our selected environmental bills, it was relatively easy to create letter grade groups of similar sizes.

However, voting scores were less suited for equally sized letter grade groups. The span of voting scores was smaller, with a large percentage voting in support of each measure. It is noteworthy that there is a strong tendency for the GA to avoid voting on bills which are not favored by leadership, or which might not pass.

We hope that readers recognize that ECRI's Green Report Card metrics cannot fully reflect the commitment and accomplishments each legislator has contributed to the environmental policies and laws addressed during the 2025 and 2026 sessions. We believe these data are significant, though not complete, indicators of individual legislators' activities. We hope that this Green Report Card will be a helpful guide for the citizens of Rhode Island and its government leaders.



Photo: Alistair Corden, Narragansett, RI

Appendix 1:

2025 Legislative Scorecard

2025

	TOTAL	PASS	FAIL
Top Priorities	4	0	4
Environmental Justice	4	0	4
Labor Transition	1	0	1
Climate & Energy	22	4	18
Transportation	9	0	9
Buildings & Homes	3	1	2
Food & Agriculture	5	0	5
Water & Toxics	8	2	6
Waste	4	1	3
Land Forest & Coast	4	2	2
Resilience & Adaptation	4	4	0
TOTALS	68	14 21% pass	54 79% fail

Appendix 2:

2026 Legislative Scorecard

2026			
	TOTAL	PASS	FAIL
Top Priorities	4	4	0
Environmental Justice	2	0	2
Labor Transition	1	0	1
Climate & Energy	28	8	20
Transportation	10	1	9
Buildings & Homes	6	2	4
Food & Agriculture	4	2	2
Water & Toxics	4	2	2
Waste	6	2	4
Land Forest & Coast	8	3	5
Resilience & Adaptation	3	0	3
TOTALS	76	24 32% pass	52 68% fail

Appendix 3:

2025 Legislative Agenda

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
2025 ECRI TOP PRIORITY BILLS					
Building Decarbonization Act	S-91 Kallman	S. Environment	HFFS 4.9		House passed the bill, Senate replaced the bill with a study and passed that
	H-5493A Kislak	H. Environment	Rec pass sub A	48-20	
	S-1161 Kallman (S. Res.)			passed by consent	
Offshore Wind Procurement	S-769 Zurier	S. Commerce	HFFS		Failed
	H-5816 Handy	H. Corporations	HFFS		
Bottle Bill with Extended Producer Responsibility	S-996A McKenney	S. Environment	Rec pass sub A	Passed A	Replaced by "Statewide Needs Assessment"
	H-6207 McEntee	H. Environment	Rec pass sub A	Passed A	
Save RIPTA Package					Failed
\$32.6 Million Budget Allocation	S-342 McKenney	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-6020 Alzate	H. Finance	HFFS		
Rideshare Sales Tax Re-allocation	S-419 Britto	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-5405 Morales	H. Finance	HFFS		

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
Commuter Transportation Benefits Act	S-382 Bissaillon	S. Commerce	HFFS		Failed
	H-5304 Hull	H. Labor	HFFS		
Transit Master Plan Bond Referenda	S-446 Vargas	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-5470 Tanzi	H. Finance	HFFS		
Motor Fuel Tax - 30% Allocation to RIPTA	S-46 Zurier	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-5467 Stewart	H. Finance	HFFS		
Motor Fuel Tax - Two-year Inflation Rate	S-47 Zurier	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-5468 Tanzi	H. Finance	HFFS		
Rideshare Surcharge	S-92 Kallman	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	None				

2025 ECRI AGENDA BILLS

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Percentage of income Payment Plan (PIPP) for Utility Bills	S-185 Sosnowski	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-5245 Slater	H. Corporations	HFFS		
Temperature alerts and more warming and cooling centers	S-713A Mack	S. Housing	Rec pass sub A	37 - 0	Passed Senate Only
	H-5953 Tanzi	H. Muni. Govt. & Housing	HFFS		

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
RI Green Amendment: "All people have a right to a clean environment"	S-327 Sosnowski	S. Environment	Rec pass	32 - 4	Passed Senate Only
	H-5732 Bennett	H. State Govt. & Elections	HFFS		
Environmental Justice Act of 2025	S-1038 Euer	S. Environment	not heard		Failed
	None				

LABOR

Employee protections from heat and cold	S-586 DiPalma	S. Labor	Rec pass	29 - 5	Passed Senate Only
	H-5305 Morales	H. Labor	HFFS		

CLIMATE & ENERGY

Senate Commission to Study Act on Climate	S-23 Zurier (S. Res.)	S. Environment	Rec pass	36 - 0	Passed
Mandates State & Utilities to Develop Offshore Wind Power	S-769 Zurier	S. Commerce	HFFS		Failed
	H-5816 Handy	H. Corporations	HFFS		
Regulations for Energy Capable Schools	S-35 Pearson	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-5203 Cortvriend	H. Finance	HFFS		
RI Clean Heat Standard Act	S-407 Zurier	S. Commerce	HFFS		Failed
	H-5167 C ortvriend	H. Environment	HFFS		

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
Lead by Example: Plastic Bottles, EVs, and Energy Efficiency	S-641 Valverde	S. Environment	HFFS		Failed
	H-5343 Boylan	H. Environment	HFFS		
Economic and Climate Resilience Act: funding from fossil fuel sales	S-338 Sosnowski	S. Finance	Never heard		Failed
	None				
Climate Superfund: Oil & Gas companies To Pay for Climate Damages	S-326 Ujifusa	S. Environment	HFFS		Failed
	H-5424 Boylan	H. Environment	HFFS		
New Building Construction to be All-Electric from 2027 Forward	None				Failed
	H-5450 Handy	H. Muni. Govt. & Housing	HFFS		
No sales tax for behind-meter batteries in solar systems	S-261 Valverde	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-5535 Boylan	H. Finance	HFFS		
Utility Spending Prohibitions (lobbying, travel, gifts, etc.)	S-593 Euer	S. Commerce	HFFS		Failed
	H-5818 Handy	H. Corporations	HFFS		
Grid Enhancing Technologies: consider and include if beneficial	S-862 Britto	S. Environment	HFFS		Failed
	H-5573 Solomon	H. Corporations	HFFS		
PUC intervenor support program (costs of testifying, etc.)	S-378 Acosta	S. Commerce	HFFS		Failed
	H-5815 Morales	H. Corporations	HFFS		

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
Solar Net Metering Update, ends "prior consumption" rule	S-843A Murray	S. Commerce		32 - 4	Passed as amended in Senate, Gov. signed
	H-5580 Potter	H. Corporations		72 - 0	
Changes payment for excess net-metering credit to wholesale rate	None				Failed
	H-5819 Lima	H. Corporations	HFFS		
Requests Special Commission to Consider Whole-Home Repairs	None				Failed
	H-5970 Handy	H. Muni. Govt. & Housing	HFFS		
H.R. - House Commission to consider Whole-Home Repairs	H-6427 Handy (H. Res.)			Passed unan.	House Resolution Passed
Thermal Energy Network and Jobs Act (comprehensive program)	None				Failed
	H-5576 Cortvriend	H. Corporations	HFFS		
Limits on Electricity Rate Increases	None				Failed
	H-5106 Lombardi	H. Corporations	HFFS		
"Preferred Solar Sites" OK without cap or rate reduction	S-1121 Britto	S. Environment	Not heard		Failed
	H-6085 Speakman	H. Corporations	HFFS		

TRANSPORTATION

Dual Commuter Rail Passes for RIPTA and MBTA	None				Failed
	S-5105 Lombardi	H. Corporations	HFFS		

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
Exempts new and used bicycles from sales tax	None				Failed
	H-5475 Handy	H. Finance	HFFS		

BUILDINGS & HOMES

RI Housing and Conservation Trust Fund	S-711 Bissaillon	S. Housing & Muni. Govt.	Rec pass	33 - 2	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-5310 Speakman	H. Muni. Govt. & Housing	Rec pass	59 - 10	
Gives tenants rights to make minor energy efficiency repairs	S-58 Gu	S. Housing	HFFS		Failed
	H-5446 Handy	H. Judiciary	HFFS		
Requires Testing and Air Quality Standards for Schools	S-977 DiPalma	S. Health	Rec pass	35 - 0	Passed Senate only
	H-5597 Cotter	H. Education	HFFS		

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

School Food Recycling & Disposal Program Updates		ref to S. Education	Not heard - 0 sen bill		Passed House only
	H-5422A Carson	H. Education	Rec pass sub A	69 - 3	
Composting and Organic Waste Diversion	S-104 Valverde	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-5195 Cortvriend	H. Finance	HFFS		
Redefines "farm" to include lower revenue values	S-781 Sosnowski	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-5607 Cotter	H. Environment	HFFS		

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
Restricted DEM Fund for receipts from farmers	S-436 DiPalma	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-5342 Chippendale	H. Environment	HFFS		
Exempts City & Small Farmers from Various Taxes	S-431 Mack	S. Environment	HFFS		Passed House only
	H-5534A McGaw	H. Finance	Rec pass sub A	58 - 9	

WATER & TOXICS

Pesticide and rodenticide controls for school grounds	S-646 Vargas	S. Environment			Failed
	H-5216 Carson	H. Education			
Prohibits PFAS in firefighting turn-out gear	S-241 Felag	S. Environment	Rec pass	34 - 0	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-5019 Speakman	H. Environment	Rec pass	70 - 0	
Prohibits Products with Microplastic Particles	S-406 Vargas	S. Environment	HFFS		Failed
	H-5492 Boylan	H. Environment	HFFS		
Artificial Turf and Infill Require a Chain-of-Custody Report	S-863 Valverde	S. Environment	HFFS		Failed
	H-5340 Boylan	H. Environment	HFFS		
Rodent-Integrated Pest Management Programs for Municipalities	S-651 Murray	S. Environment	Rec pass sub A	35 - 0	Passed Senate only
	H-5704 Kislak	H. Muni. Govt. & Housing	HFFS		

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
PFAS Testing of Biosolids Required with Quarterly Report to DEM	S-650 DiMario	S. Environment	Rec pass sub A	36 - 0	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-5844 Cortvriend	H. Environment	Rec pass sub A	68 - 0	
Lead Water Service Lines Require Testing & Mitigation	S-982 Ruggerio	S. Housing	Rec pass	29 - 5	Passed Senate only
	H-6304 O'Brien	H. Health	HFFS		
Clinical Labs May Test Children Under 6yrs for Blood Lead Levels	S-1005 Murray	S. Health	rec pass	S. Passed	Passed Senate only
	H-6305 Phillips	H. Health	HFFS		

WASTE

Prohibits High-Heat Facilities for Plastic Waste Processing	S-24 Ujifusa	S. Environment	HFFS		Failed
	H-5166 McGaw	H. Environment	HFFS		
Creates Public Education Program for Textile Recycling	S-324 DiMario	S. Environment	rec pass	35 - 0	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-5293 Hull	H. Environment	rec pass	70 - 0	
Beverage Container Recycling Act - the "Bottles Only Bill"	S-997 Valverde	S. Environment	HFFS		Failed
	H-6206 Spears	H. Environment	HFFS		
Statewide Implementation analysis - bottles, packaging & recycling (This bill replaced the original: Bottle Bill + EPR)	S-996A McKenney	S. Environment	Rec pass sub A	Passed - N/A	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-6207A McEntee	H. Environment	Rec pass sub A	Passed - N/A	

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
LAND, FOREST, & SHORE					
Replaces Coastal Resources Mgt. Council with New State Agency	S-775 McKenney	S. Environment	HFFS		Failed
	5706 Cortvriend	H. State Govt.	HFFS		
Reforms CRMC to 7 Members But Maintains Current Structure <i>(This study replaced the original 775 / 5706 (above))</i>	S-998A Sosnowski	S. Environment	Rec pass sub A	26 - 10	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-6126A Finkelman	H. State Govt.	Rec pass sub A	52 - 19	
Allows "Qualified Abandonment" of Public Roads with Easement Access	S-349 Gu	S. Housing	HFFS		Passed House only
	H-5960 Cortvriend	H. Muni. Govt. & Housing	Rec Pass	69 - 0	
Creates "Main Street RI" Coordinating Program	S-174A Urso (S. Res.)	S. Finance	Rec Pass	37 - 0	Passed both Senate and House, effective w/o signature
	H-5477A Handy (H. Res.)	H. Finance	HFFS; Amended	70 - 0	

RESILIENCE					
Creates State Protection for Volunteer Disaster Response Architects	S-672A Bissaillon	S. Finance	Sub A; Rec Pass	37 - 0	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-5155A Cotter	H. Corporations	Sub A; Rec pass	70 - 0	
Creates State Protection for Disaster Response Workers	S-671A Bissaillon	S. Finance	Sub A; Rec Pass	37 - 0	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-5157A Cotter	H. Finance	Sub A; Rec pass	70 - 0	

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
Requests \$400,000 to CRMC for URI's "Storm Tools", etc.	S-923 DiMario	S. Finance	Heard by Committee		\$200,000 was budgeted for 2026
	H-6016 Cortvriend	H. Finance	HFFS		
Authorizes Resilient Rhody Infrastructure Account for Municipalities	S-1070 Ciccone	S. Finance	Rec pass	36 - 0	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-6252 Cortvriend	H. Finance	Rec pass	72 - 0	

Appendix 4:

2026 Legislative Agenda

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
2026 ECRI TOP PRIORITY BILLS					
Protect State Clean Energy Programs (Gov's Budget, Article 11, etc.) · Renewable Energy Standard · Net Metering Programs · Energy Efficiency Programs ECRI opposed rollbacks of clean energy programs in Gov's proposed budget					Extensive budget revision, accepted & signed by Gov. See Discussion
Green Bond with Added Conservation Funds Article 5	S-8144 Cotter	H. Finance	HFFS		\$\$ for land conservation added to budget for bond approval
	H-3231 DiPalma	S. Finance	HFFS		
Building Decarbonization Benchmarking & Reporting	S-2260 Kallman	S. Housing	HFFS	33 - 5	Passed and Vetoed by Gov.
	H-7183 Kislak	H. Environment	Considered	48 - 15 NV12	
Building Performance Standards Act of 2026	S-2218 Kallman	S. Environment	HFFS		Failed
	H-7184 Kislak	H. Environment	HFFS		

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
Save RIPTA Package (see final budget)					Budget increased funding. Some is durable. Some closed routes are not restored.
\$5 Million Budget Allocation	S-2825 McKenney	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-8317 Alzate	H. Finance	HFFS		
Increase RIPTA's Share of Highway Maintenance Fund to 20%	S-2095 Zurier	S. Finance	HFFS		Adds \$5 million
	H-8178 Cortvriend	H. Finance	HFFS		
Rideshare Sales Tax to RIPTA	S-3084 Britto	S. Finance	HFFS		\$10 - 15 million for Ride Anywhere
	H-8145 Stewart	H. Finance	HFFS		
Commuter Transportation Benefits Act	S-2323 Bissaillon	S. Labor	HFFS		Failed
	H-7363 Hull	H. Labor	HFFS		
Transit Master Plan Bond Referendum	S-2813 Vargas	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-8202 Tanzi	H. Finance	HFFS		

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
Car Inspection Fee Share to RIPTA	S-3013 Vargas	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-8369 Furtado	H. Finance	HFFS		
RIPTA Board Restructuring	None				DOT Director removed as RIPTA Board Chair through Budget
	H-8127 Tanzi	H. Corporations	HFFS		
Increase Motor Fuel Tax Share to RIPTA	S-2668 Zurier	S. Finance	HFFS		Retains current level, adding \$8.6 million in Budget
	H-8315 Stewart	H. Finance	HFFS		

2026 ECRI AGENDA BILLS

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) for Utility Bills	S-2248 Sosnowski	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-7880 Slater	H. Corporations	HFFS		
Free fishing license to federally recognized tribes	S-3079 Britto	S. Environment	HFFS		Failed
	H-7619 Spears	H. Environment	HFFS		
Employers must protect vs temperature extremes for workers	S-2320 DiPalma	S. Labor	HFFS		Failed
	H-8311 Dawson	H. Labor	HFFS		

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
CLIMATE & ENERGY					
Economic and Climate Resilience Act of 2026 (C F & D)	S-2222 Sosnowski	S. Environment	Not heard		Failed
	None				
RI Climate Superfund Act of 2026	S-2024 Ujifusa	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-7004 Boylan	H. Environment	HFFS		
Medical documentation for delayed utility service termination	S-2013 Kallman	S. Commerce	HFFS		Failed
	H-7612 Cruz	H. Corporations	HFFS		
Portable Solar Generation Devices (Balcony Solar)	S-2359 Valverde	S. Environment	HFFS		Passed House only
	H-7269A Speakman	H. Corporations	HFFS	70 - 0	
PUC must classify and report on Data Processing Centers energy use	S-2427 Lauria	S. Commerce	HFFS		Failed
	H-7270 Speakman	H. Corporations	HFFS		
Annual reports of state-owned vehicle power categories	S-2550 Vargas	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-7578 McGaw	H. State Govt. & Elections	HFFS		

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
Asks PUC to End Gas Line Extension Allowances (Docket 25-45-GE)	S-2354A DiMario (S. Res.)	S. Environment	Rec pass sub A	33 - 5	Senate Resolution Passed
	H-7891 Cortvriend (H. Res.)	H. Corporations	HFFS		Failed
Requires regs for school buildings to be net-zero capable by end 2037	S-2229 Pearson	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-8167 Cortvriend	H. Finance	HFFS		
Sales tax exemption for behind meter batteries with photovoltaics	S-2244 Valverde	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-7506 Boylan	H. Finance	HFFS		
Creates a Permanent Commission on Climate Change Impacts and Solutions	H-7344A Cortvriend (H. Res.)	H. Environment	HFFS -> pass	69 - 2	House Resolution Passed
Creates a solar-siting advisory task force for state properties	None				Failed
	H-7178 Phillips	H. Corporations	HFFS		
Increases EFSB oversight of regional transmission spending	None				Failed
	H-7068 Solomon	H. Corporations	HFFS		
Next Generation Public Buildings Act (No fossil fuels after 2027)	S-2529 Urso	S. Environment	HFFS		Failed
	H-7081 Boylan	H. Environment	HFFS		

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
Solar Cost Reduction Act (Simplifies permitting and approval)	S-2801 Valverde	S. Environment	HFFS		Passed House only
	H-7726 Boylan	H. Corporations	HFFS	68 - 4	
Establishes an Offshore Wind Procurement Policy Study Commission	S-2661 Zurier	S. Environment	0 hearing		Failed
	H-7727 Handy	H. Corporations	HFFS		
Large building developments must provide carbon impact report	None				Failed
	H-7484 Carson	H. Environment	HFFS		
Sales Tax Exemption for energy storage systems	S-2449 Valverde	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	None				
Thermal extremes alerts & centers for at-risks	S-2264 Mack	S. Housing & Muni. Govt.	Rec pass	36 - 0	Passed Senate only
	None				
Asks PUC to consider seasonal heat-pump rate in Docket 25.45.GE	S-2535 DiMario	S. Environment	HFFS		Failed
	None				
Excludes Nuclear Power from procurement & long term contracts	S-2805 Euer	S. Commerce	HFFS		Failed
	H-7876 Stewart	H. Corporations	HFFS		
Thermal Energy Network and Jobs Act - Geothermal Pilot Projects	S-3080B Britto	S. Environment	Rec pass Sub A	38 - 0	Senate passed Sub B in concurrence w/ House, Gov. signed
	H-7879 Cortvriend	H. Corporations	Rec pass Sub B	70 - 1	

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
Decarbonization Demonstration Act - Geothermal for large apartments	S-2905 Euer	S. Housing & Muni. Govt.	HFFS		Failed
	H-8132 Cortvriend	H. Environment	HFFS		
Utility Base Rate to exclude ads, politics, marketing, and investor-related	S-2779 Euer	S. Commerce	HFFS		Failed
	H-7881 Handy	H. Corporations	HFFS		
Helps permitting of energy storage systems on unclaimed property	S-2800A Bissaillon	S. Housing & Muni. Govt.	Rec pass Sub A	33 - 4	Passed both Senate and House, effective w/o signature
	H-8294A Speakman	H. Muni. Govt. & Housing	H -> considered	59 - 8	
Intervenor support program for fees and experts at EFSB & PUC	S-2727 Acosta	S. Judiciary	HFFS		Failed
	H-7890 Stewart	H. Corporations	HFFS		
RES - Adds zero-emission resources; keeps 100% by 2033	S-2764A Tikoian (copy of Carson's RES)	S. Commerce	Heard		Did not pass, but influenced Budget amendments
	H-8519 Carson (See Budget discussion)	H. Corporations	HFFS		
An Alternative Net-Metering Expansion to increase RECs	S-3272 DiPalma	S. Finance	Heard		Did not pass, but influenced Budget amendments
	none				

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
Extends Act on Climate Commission from May 1 2026 to May 1 2027	S-3343 Zurier (S. Res.)	S. Consent		S. Passed	Senate Resolution Passed

BUDGET

The Governor's proposed Budget	H-7127A	S. Finance	Rec pass in concurrence	32 - 6	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-7127A	H. Finance	Rec pass sub A	65 - 10	
"Millionaire's Tax" (3% on income >\$640K) included in budget	S-2238 Murray	S. Finance	HFFS		Did not pass, but influenced Budget amendments
	H-7313 Alzate	H. Finance	HFFS		
Blue Wave Bonds for Coastal Resilience	S-3181 DiPalma	S. Finance	HFFS		Did not pass, but \$25 million bond for public vote approval included in Budget
	H-8151 Spears	H. Finance	HFFS		

TRANSPORTATION

Save RIPTA Package (see TOP PRIORITY section above)

Enables commuter rail pass for both MBTA & RIPTA	None				Passed House only
	H-7138 Lombardi	H. Corporations	HFFS -> rec pass	H. Passed	
75 cent surcharge on rideshares to benefit RIPTA	S-2092 Kallman	S. Health	HFFS		Failed
	None				

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
BUILDINGS & HOMES					
Creates Green Building Act Commission, and Implements G.B. Act	S-2765 DiPalma	S. Commerce	HFFS		Failed
	H-7739 Cortvriend	H. Environment	HFFS		
Sets school air quality standards, testing & reporting - 5 year cycles	S-2873 DiPalma	S. Health	Rec pass	36 - 0	Passed Senate only
	H-7582 Cotter	H. Finance	HFFS		
RI must adopt 2024 IECC building codes, then no change until 2031	S-3032 Tikoian	S. Housing & Muni. Govt.	HFFS -> rec pass	65 - 0	Passed Senate only
	H-7738 Cortvriend	H. Environment	HFFS		
(Similar to S-2632/H-7774, which protect IRC residential code from federal mischief)					
Extends Whole Home Repair Program Commission	H-7228 A Handy (H. Res.)	H. Muni. Govt. & Housing	HFFS -> sub A	64 - 0	House Resolution Passed
Requires construction detailed checklist for state buildings > \$10 million	None				Failed
	H-7623 Handy	H. Environment	HFFS		
Provides Dept. Business Reg. Program for Home Hardening with possible grants	S-3150A Sosnowski	S. Environment	Rec pass	37 - 0	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-7865A Kennedy	H. Corporations	Sub A	62 - 11	

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Amends School Composting & Recycling Program (Refines Details)	S-2438A Valverde	S. Environment	HFFS	38 - 0	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-7342A Carson	H. Education	HFFS -> sub A	60 - 9	

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
Tax credit for food donations by qualified taxpayers to NFP orgs (< \$5,000)	S-2447 Kallman	S. Finance	HFFS		Failed
	H-7698 McEntee	H. Finance	HFFS		
DEM to issue and enforce regulations for educational food waste ban	S-2437 Valverde	S. Environment	HFFS		Failed
	H-7622 Cortvriend	H. Environment	HFFS		
Exempts certain urban & small farmers from various taxes	S-2827 Mack	S. Finance	HFFS -> rec pass	37 - 0	Passed both Senate and House
	S-2827			60 - 9	

WATER & TOXICS

Rodenticide Controls with Municipality Alternative Pilot Programs	S-2795 Murray	S. Environment	Rec pass	38 - 0	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-7222 Kislak	H. Muni. Govt. & Housing	HFFS	56 - 8	
Restricts pesticide & rodenticide use at schools and childcare facilities	S-2439 Vargas	S. Environment	HFFS		Failed
	H-7343 Carson	H. Education	HFFS		
Lead testing for kids (adds no-cost use of licensed clinical labs)	S-2870 Murray	S. Health	Rec pass	36 - 0	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-7191A Phillips	H. Health	HFFS -> sub A	72 - 0	
Personal Hygiene Product Safety and Toxic Metal Removal Act	S-2117 Urso	S. Health	HFFS		Failed
	H-7110 Alzate	H. Health	HFFS		

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
WASTE					
Compost Diversion Grant Fund, with grants to reduce solid waste	S-2441 Valverde	S. Finance	CTTE heard		Failed
	H-7675 Cortvriend	H. State Govt. & Elections	HFFS		
Legislative Commission to Study Sludge Management	S-3225A DiMario	S. Commerce	HFFS -> Sub A	38 - 0	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-7532B Cortvriend	H. Environment	Sub A -> Sub B	64 - 0	
Prohibits thermal waste conversion facility @ Quonset Pt. (for one year)	S-3224A Valverde	S. Commerce	Considered	29 - 9	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-8400A Casimiro	H. Corporations	HFFS	60 - 10	
Inclusively prohibits "plastic waste conversion facilities" in RI	S-2531 Ujifusa	S. Environment	HFFS		Failed
	H-7620 McGaw	H. Environment	HFFS		
Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for paper, packaging, and beverage containers	S-3012 McKenney	S. Environment	No hearing		Failed
	H-7911 McEntee	H. Environment	HFFS		
House Resolution for Statehouse waste/recycling audit	H-7533 Carson (H. Res.)	H. Environment	HFFS		Failed

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
LAND, FOREST, & SHORE					
Moves CRMC (Coastal Resources Mgt Council) to a Bureau within the DEM	S-3082 McKenney	S. Environment			Failed
	H-7996 Edwards	H. State Govt. & Elections	HFFS		
RI Invasive Plant Management Act (DEM lists & prohibits invasives)	S-2352A McKenney	S. Environment	HFFS -> Sub A	38 - 0	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-7071A Boylan	H. Environment	HFFS -> Sub A	66 - 7	
Motorboat registration fee (\$5 per 2yrs for freshwater lake preservation)	None				Failed
	H-7915 Chippendale	H. State Govt. & Elections	HFFS		
Extends Pawtuxet River Flooding Commission	H-7028 Read (H. Res.)	H. Environment	Rec pass	61 - 0	H. Comm. Extended
DOT: to plant pollinator-friendly plants along roads	S-2425 Vargas	S. Housing & Muni. Govt.	HFFS		Failed
	H-7074 McGaw	H. Environment	HFFS		
Names MAY as Rhode Island Native Plant Month	S-2327 Sosnowski	S. Special Legislation	Rec pass	S. Passed	Passed Senate only
	H-7230 McGaw	H. Special Legislation	HFFS		
Joint Resolution To Study & Regulate Wake Boats	S-2657 de la Cruz	S. Environment	Rec pass	S. Passed	Passed Senate only
	H-7992 Chippendale	H. State Govt. & Elections	HFFS		

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
Crook Point Bridge Authority Act	S-3176 Zurier	S. Spec. Leg.		31 - 0	Passed both Senate and House, Gov. signed
	H-7218 Kislak	H. Muni. Govt. & Housing		63 - 2	

RESILIENCE

Proposes planning & funds for adaptation of coastal property	S-2903 Gu	S. Housing	HFFS		Failed
	H-8169 Cortvriend	H. Finance	HFFS		
Coastal Resilience - Nature Based Solutions for Erosion Control	None				Failed
	H-7991 Cortvriend	H. Environment	HFFS		
Allows RIIB to Use Fund Money for Insurability Planning	S-2804 Gu	S. Environment			Failed
	H-7800 Cortvriend	H. Muni. Govt. & Housing	HFFS		

BILLS OPPOSED BY ECRI

Property owners may protect property w/o prior approval	S-3039 Quezada	S. Judiciary	HFFS		Failed
	H-7309 Lima	H. State Gov.	HFFS		
Expands definitions of farm & agricultural land (freshwater wetlands)	None				Failed
	H-7072 Cotter	H. Environment	HFFS		
Directs GA to fund 10 FTEs for DEM Forestry in 2027	S-2546 Ujifusa	S. Finance	Heard		Failed
	H-7243 Cotter	H. Finance	HFFS		

Bill Description	Bill # and Sponsor	Committee	Committee Action	Floor Vote	FINAL RESULT
State & municipalities are NOT owners re public use of private land	S-3188 Famiglietti	S. Judiciary	HFFS		Failed
	H-7761 Craven	H. Judiciary	HFFS		
Transparency in Electric & Gas Bills	S-2012 Rogers	S. Commerce	HFFS		Failed
	None				
Allows Rhode Island Energy to own electricity generating facilities	S-2645A Tikoian	S. Commerce	Rec pass	Returned to Comm.	Failed
	H-7889 Serpa	H. Corporations	HFFS		

Appendix 5:

2025-2026 Senate Rankings

Senator	total votes	total sponsorships	SCORE	GRADE
Valverde	36	39	75	A+ n=7
DiPalma	37	35	72	
Zurier	37	35	72	
Vargas	37	27	64	
Kallman	35	28	63	
McKenney	37	24	61	
Sosnowski	37	24	61	
Bissaillon	37	20	57	A n=6
Britto	37	20	57	
DiMario	35	18	53	
Murray	35	18	53	
Euer	34	15	49	
Gu	37	12	49	
Mack	34	12	46	B n=8
Ujifusa	37	9	46	
Urso	37	9	46	
Acosta	37	6	43	
Ciccone	35	3	43	
Lawson	37	0	42	
Felag	37	3	40	
Lauria	35	3	38	

Senator	total votes	total sponsorships	SCORE	GRADE
Appollonio	37	0	37	C n=7
Gallo	37	0	37	
Tikoian	36	0	36	
Burke	35	0	35	
Dimitri	35	0	35	
LaMountain	35	0	35	
Thompson	35	0	35	
Pearson	25	6	31	D n=3
Quezada	32	-3	29	
Bell	27	0	27	
Raptakis	19	0	19	F n=6
Patalano	31	-15	16	
Paolino	11	-3	8	
Morgan	7	0	7	
de la Cruz	8	-9	-1	
Rogers	11	-15	-4	

* Senator Famiglietti is unranked because he has only been in office for one year and there is not enough data for a grade.

Famiglietti	19	-3	16	Not ranked
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Appendix 6:

2025-2026 House Rankings

Representative	total votes	total sponsorships	SCORE	GRADE
Cortvriend	28	67	95	A+ n-12
Handy	25	40	65	
Boylan	28	33	61	
Kislak	28	27	55	
McGaw	30	21	51	
Carson	27	22	49	
Speakman	28	18	46	
Stewart	27	18	45	
Tanzi	26	19	45	
Cotter	25	16	41	
McEntee	28	13	41	
Alzate	26	14	40	
Hull	27	11	38	A n-13
Lombardi	29	9	38	
Morales	25	10	35	
Spears	25	9	34	
Bennett	30	3	33	
Kazarian	28	0	33	
Edwards	29	3	32	
Slater	26	6	32	
Read, III	28	3	31	
Solomon, Jr.	25	6	31	
Furtado	26	4	30	
Potter	27	3	30	
Blazejewski	25	0	30	

Representative	total votes	total sponsorships	SCORE	GRADE
Casimiro	26	3	29	B n-11
Cruz	26	3	29	
McNamara	26	3	29	
Phillips	20	9	29	
Abney	28	0	28	
Ajello	28	0	28	
Dawson	25	3	28	
DeSimone	28	0	28	
Donovan	28	0	28	
Messier	28	0	28	
Sanchez	28	0	28	
Corvese	24	3	27	C n-11
Felix	23	4	27	
Marszalkowski	27	0	27	
Ackerman	26	0	26	
Caldwell	26	0	26	
Fellela	26	0	26	
Fogarty	26	0	26	
Shallcross Smith	26	0	26	
Diaz	25	0	25	
Giraldo	25	0	25	
Knight	25	0	25	

Representative	total votes	total sponsorships	SCORE	GRADE
Biah	24	0	24	D n-16
Kennedy	21	3	24	
Shanley	24	0	24	
Voas	24	0	24	
Azzinaro	23	0	23	
Batista	23	0	23	
Noret	23	0	23	
Serpa	26	-3	23	
Baginski	22	0	22	
Shekarchi	17	0	22	
O'Brien	18	3	21	
Casey	20	0	20	
Finkelman	23	-3	20	
Craven, Sr.	22	-3	19	
Brien	18	0	18	
Costantino	12	0	12	
Perez	6	0	6	F n-12
Hopkins	3	0	3	
Newberry	1	0	1	
Lima	12	-12	0	
Nardone	0	0	0	
Roberts	0	0	0	
Santucci	-2	0	-2	
Paplauskas	2	-6	-4	
Quattrocchi	-2	-3	-5	
Chippendale	-7	0	-7	
Place	-4	-3	-7	
Fascia	-2	-9	-11	

The Environment Council of Rhode Island is a coalition of organizations and individuals advocating for policies that protect and enhance the environment. ECRI works to create a healthier, more sustainable future for all Rhode Islanders through legislative action and community engagement.

www.environmentcouncilri.org

For questions about this report, please contact:

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**Environment
Council of
Rhode Island**



Photo: James Crowley, ECRI Coffee Hour, RI State House



Photo: Kaylee Torres, Newport, RI