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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

SENATE RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF ENERGY RESOURCES TO
UNDERTAKE A REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF BENCHMARKING PROGRAMS FOR
MUNICIPAL AND PRIVATE BUILDINGS GREATER THAN 25,000 SQUARE FEET

Introduced By: Senator Meghan E. Kallman

Date Introduced: June 20, 2025

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

- 1 WHEREAS, The 2021 Act on Climate established Rhode Island as a national leader in
2 reducing harmful emissions and achieving net-zero economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions; and
3 WHEREAS, Rhode Island lacks sufficient up-to-date emissions and energy-use sample
4 data for large buildings; and
5 WHEREAS, Large buildings greater than 25,000 square feet could account for 10 percent
6 of emissions statewide, or roughly one-fifth of the estimated emissions from the whole building
7 sector; and
8 WHEREAS, To properly measure the emissions and energy-use intensity of large
9 buildings the State would need to develop a building energy benchmarking program for these
10 buildings; now, therefore be it
11 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby respectfully requests
12 the Office of Energy Resources (OER) to undertake a building benchmarking review and analysis
13 on the following:
14 • Status on the implementation of current benchmarking efforts on state properties;
15 • Recommendations for proper implementation of a benchmarking program that
16 expands current benchmarking to municipal and private buildings greater than
17 25,000 square feet. Recommendations shall include and not limited to timeline
18 for implementation, staffing requirements, resources, and programmatic changes;
19 • Feedback from the League of Cities and Towns and Chambers of Commerce on

1 benchmarking program implementation and data collection; and

2 • Coordinate with Rhode Island Energy on modeling data, implementation, and

3 cost of a benchmarking program; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby requests OER to develop recommendations as to

5 how to implement a State benchmarking program for municipal and privates buildings greater

6 than 25,000 square feet; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby further requests the OER to report its findings and

8 recommendations to the Senate on or before February 27, 2026; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to

10 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Commissioner of the Office of Energy

11 Resources.

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