

2026 -- S 2535

LC004472

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

SENATE RESOLUTION

FORMALLY REQUESTING THAT THE RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION TO CONSIDER THE CREATION AND ADOPTION OF A SEASONAL
HEAT PUMP RATE AS PART OF DOCKET 25-45-GE

Introduced By: Senators DiMario, Britto, Euer, Lauria, Zurier, Mack, DiPalma, Vargas,
Gu, and Bissaillon

Date Introduced: February 13, 2026

Referred To: Senate Environment & Agriculture

1 WHEREAS, There exists the need for specific electric heat pump rate designs that
2 encourage clean heating and lower prices, similar to actions currently taken in other states; and

3 WHEREAS, The current rate structure overcharges heat pump owners for their usage of
4 the electric distribution grid; and

5 WHEREAS, In addition, seasonal heat pump rates are designed to lower electricity costs
6 for consumers by offering reduced distribution charges during colder months; and

7 WHEREAS, Massachusetts has already implemented seasonal heat pump rates, setting a
8 precedent and a successful procedure for consumer notification and implementation; and

9 WHEREAS, The Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council, in its 2025 Climate
10 Action Strategy, indicates that Rhode Island needs to increase adoption of electric heating in
11 order for the state to meet its 2030, 2040 and 2050 climate goals; and

12 WHEREAS, Rhode Island Energy has opened Docket 25-45-GE at the Public Utilities
13 Commission to adjust distribution rates for all Rhode Island customers; now, therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby formally requests that
15 Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission consider the creation and adoption of a seasonal heat
16 pump rate as part of Docket 25-45-GE; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
2 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Chairman Ronald T. Gerwatowski, the Rhode
3 Island Public Utilities Commission, and President Greg Cornett, Rhode Island Energy.

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