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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT THE RHODE ISLAND OFFICE OF ENERGY
RESOURCES IMPROVE CONSUMER PROTECTION RELATED TO SOLAR ENERGY
PROGRAMS FOR HOMEOWNERS**

Introduced By: Representatives Ruggiero, McNamara, Handy, Kazarian, and Bennett

Date Introduced: April 11, 2019

Referred To: House Environment and Natural Resources

1 WHEREAS, Rhode Island’s renewable energy market and associated clean energy
2 opportunities have advanced for Rhode Island homeowners, businesses and farmers over the past
3 several years; and

4 WHEREAS, In the fall of 2014, the State of Rhode Island launched a Renewable Energy
5 Professional Certificate for qualified solar companies to obtain a Certificate from the Department
6 of Labor and Training and Office of Energy Resources; and

7 WHEREAS, In the fall of 2014, there were less than half a dozen solar companies doing
8 business in Rhode Island, and in late 2018 there were over forty solar companies registered and
9 doing business in the State of Rhode Island; and

10 WHEREAS, Since 2013, over 3,000 homeowners across Rhode Island have participated
11 in the state’s residential solar programs; and

12 WHEREAS, Rhode Island investments in renewables have advanced the state’s clean
13 energy, climate change and carbon emission reductions goals; and

14 WHEREAS, While Rhode Island continues to invest in renewable energy, there needs to
15 be consumer protection improvements associated with homeowners that are pursuing roof
16 mounted solar systems for their homes; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
18 Providence Plantations hereby respectfully requests that the Rhode Island Office of Energy
19 Resources improve consumer protection related measures with the state’s solar energy programs

1 for homeowners; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That this House hereby respectfully requests the Office of Energy
3 Resources to report back to the House on or before January 6, 2020, on the status and
4 implementation of consumer protection measures with the state's residential solar programs,
5 including a disclosure form to homeowners that are participating in the Renewable Energy
6 Growth and Renewable Energy Fund programs; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
8 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Honorable Gina M. Raimondo, Governor of
9 the State of Rhode Island and Carol Grant, Commissioner of the Office of Energy Resources.

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