RHODE ISLAND'S 2023-24 STATE GOVERNMENT AND KEY ENERGY ISSUES



RHODE ISLAND'S EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND STATE LEGISLATURE

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND KEY LEGISLATORS

Governor (D) Daniel J. McKee

Lt. Governor (D) Sabina Matos

Secretary of the State (D) Gregg Amore

Attorney General (D) Peter Neronha

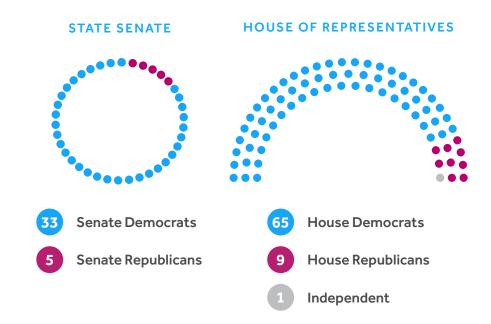
Treasurer (D) James Diossa

Speaker of the House (D) Joseph Shekarchi

House Majority Leader (D) Chris Blazejewski

Senate President (D) Dominick Ruggerio

Senate Majority Leader (D) Ryan Pearson



THE LEGISLATURE'S COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS

LEADERSHIP

House Corporations (D) Chair Joseph Solomon

House Environment & Natural Resources (D) Chair David Bennett Senate Commerce (D) Chair Susan Sosnowski

Senate Environment (D) Chair Alana DiMario

KEY ENERGY ISSUES BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE IN 2023

BLUE ECONOMY: OFFSHORE-WIND



- Because Rhode Island is a champion of the South Quay Terminal in East Providence, the governor has proposed an additional \$25M in funding for phase two of the project.
- South Quay will serve as a regional hub for wind turbines destined for off-shore wind projects in-and-around the State.

BROWNFIELD (SOLAR) DEVELOPMENT

• There will likely be efforts to support streamlined brownfield development for solar projects.



• The Department of Environmental Management published a list of brownfield sites available for development, but the program is likely to see some legislative action to incentivize and streamline these sites for solar development.

ELECTRIC-VEHICLES

- Rhode Island is the beneficiary of \$23M in federal funds to expand its EV-charging capability.
- There is a requirement for the EV-charging corridor (I-95) to be outfitted along the highways; the federal funds are available for disbursement in other ways including private development.

ENERGY PRICING

- There will be a continued effort to highlight the issue of rising energy prices in Rhode Island.
- Some lawmakers will focus on legislatively challenging the Public Utilities Commission, the rate-setting entity in the State.

FEDERAL FUNDS

- Rhode Island is expected to invest the Inflation Reduction Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funds to help meet the State's climate goals.
- A labor-backed organization, Climate Jobs Rhode Island, will play a significant role in shaping policy for these funds.

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GRID RELIABILITY

- Climate Jobs Rhode Island and other entities will keep emphasizing grid reliability concerns.
- The local media will likely highlight power plant failures in New England, and these types of events, to serve as a catalyst to increase grid reliability.



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