



**Acadia
Center**

Advancing the Clean Energy Future

Climate Advocate Training

How to Advocate for a Strong Act on Climate Plan

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Act on Climate & State Agencies

“Addressing the impacts on climate change shall be deemed to be within the powers, duties, and obligations of all state departments, agencies, commissions, councils, and instrumentalities, including quasi-public agencies, and each shall be deemed to have and to exercise among its purposes in the exercise of its existing authority, the purposes set forth in this chapter pertaining to climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience in so far as climate change affects its mission, duties, responsibilities, projects, or programs. Each agency shall have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations necessary to meet the greenhouse gas emission reduction mandate...”



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Public Comment Opportunities

- [Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Auction Allocations](#)
- [Dept. of Environmental Management Rulemakings](#)
- [Public Utilities Commission](#)
- [Division of Public Utilities and Carriers](#)
- [Energy Facility Siting Board](#)
- [Department of Transportation](#)
- [Transportation Advisory Committee](#)
- [RIPTA](#)
- [Division of Statewide Planning](#)
- [Department of Housing](#)
- [RI Building Code Commission](#) ...and many, many more!



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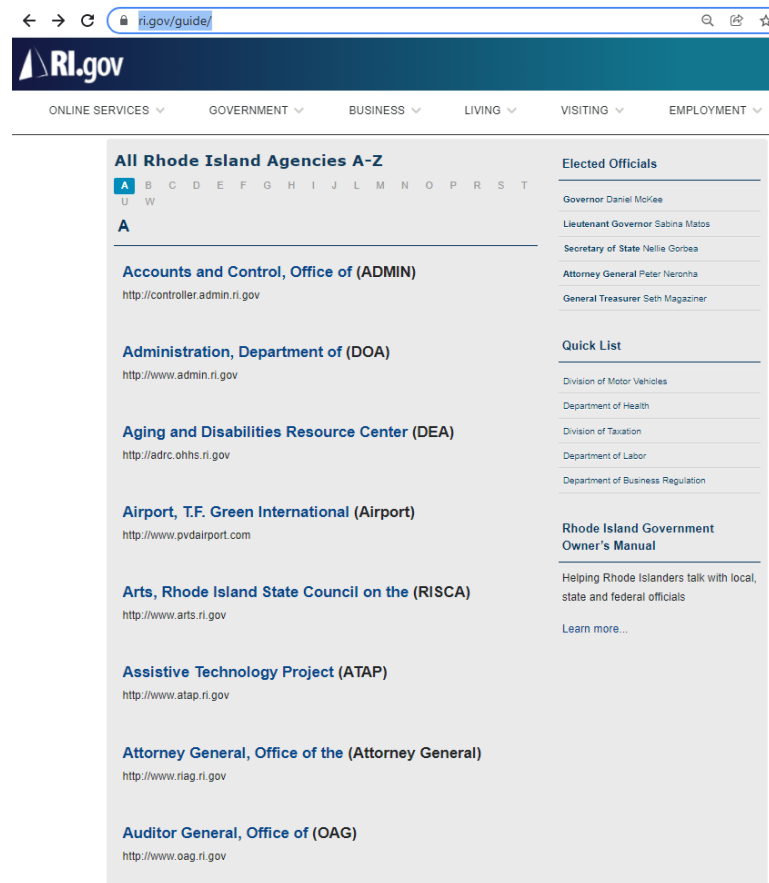
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Helpful Resources- RI.Gov

<https://www.ri.gov/guide/> links to all state agencies



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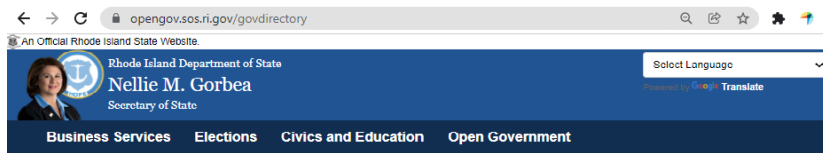
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Helpful Resources – RI Owners Manual

<https://opengov.sos.ri.gov/govdirectory>



Directory of Government Officials

Welcome to the Government Directory, your guide to Rhode Island government, offering up-to-date contact information for federal, state and local elected officials, and many local and state agencies. To request a copy of the Rhode Island Government Owner's Manual, a printed book with this information, contact our Public Information Office at (401) 222-3983 or opengovernment@sos.ri.gov.

Directory of Government Officials

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Cities & Towns

Boards & Commissions

Open Meetings

Our Officials

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General Officers
General Assembly
Find your Officials

Rhode Island Judiciary

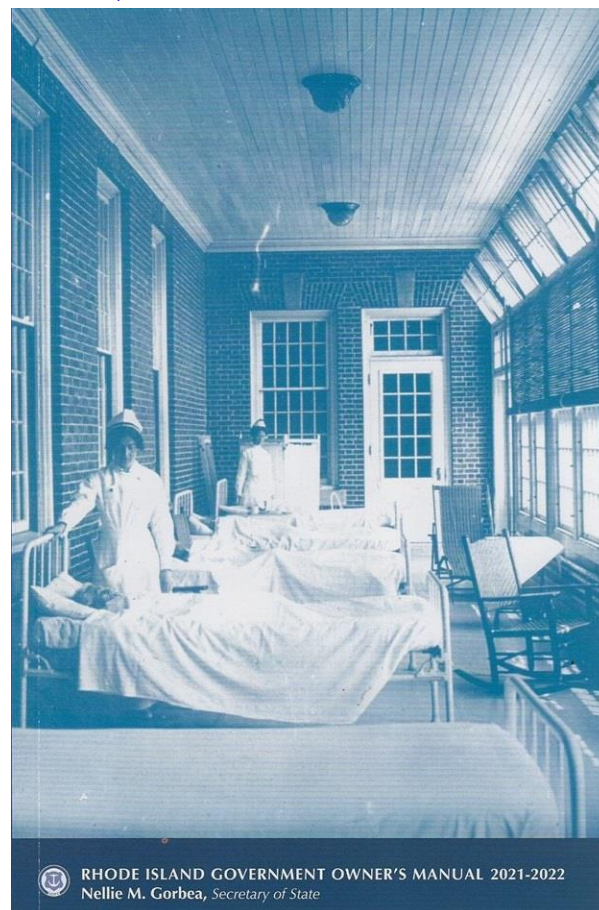
Supreme Court
Superior Court
Family Court
District Court
Traffic Tribunal
Workers' Compensation Court

Departments & Agencies

Departments, Agencies, Boards & Commissions

Municipalities

Cities and Towns



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Helpful Resources

<https://opengov.sos.ri.gov/OpenMeetings>

A searchable digest of ALL state and local public meetings, agendas, minutes.

← → ↻ opengov.sos.ri.gov/OpenMeetings 🔍 📄 ⭐ ⚙️ 🌐

RSS REX eMail Upcoming Meetings for 02/02/2022 to 02/02/2022

Show entries Filter

Body Name	Meeting Date
Workforce Board, Governor's	Feb 2 2022, 08:00AM
Dentistry, Board of	Feb 2 2022, 08:00AM
Lincoln School Committee Health and Wellness Committee	Feb 2 2022, 08:00AM
Paul Cuffee School	Feb 2 2022, 09:00AM
Cranston Development Plan Review Committee (DPRC)	Feb 2 2022, 09:00AM
Wastewater Treatment Facilities, Board of Certification of Operators of	Feb 2 2022, 09:30AM
Real Estate Appraisers Board	Feb 2 2022, 09:30AM
Energy Facility Siting Board	Feb 2 2022, 10:00AM
Traffic Commission, State	Feb 2 2022, 10:00AM
Energy Facility Siting Board	Feb 2 2022, 10:00AM
Crime Laboratory Commission, State	Feb 2 2022, 11:00AM
Motor Vehicle Dealers License and Hearing Board	Feb 2 2022, 12:30PM
Providence Board of Licenses	Feb 2 2022, 12:30PM
Newport Board of Tax Appeals	Feb 2 2022, 02:15PM
Fort Adams Foundation	Feb 2 2022, 02:30PM
Portsmouth Board of Canvassers	Feb 2 2022, 03:00PM
Little Compton School Committee	Feb 2 2022, 03:00PM

time meeting information to their own website.

February 2022

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

No Meetings Scheduled
One Meeting Scheduled on this day
Multiple Meetings Scheduled on this day



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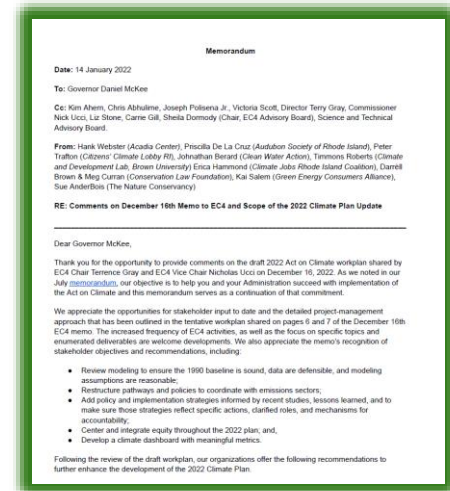
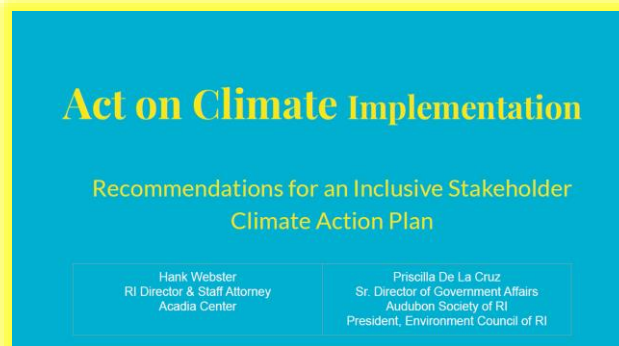
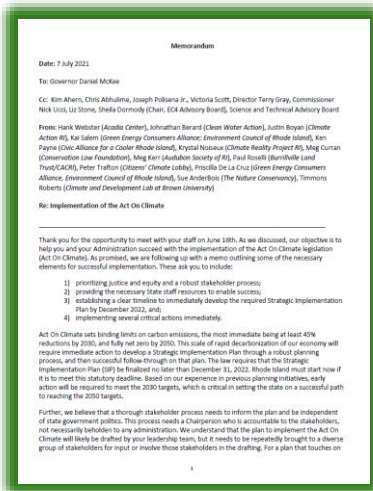
Helpful Resources

Act on Climate Advocates' Biweekly Zoom (2/8 @ noon)

- [Sign-up](#) link in the chat!

Or,

- Email: hwebster@acadiacenter.org



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Public Comments vs. Lobbying

DISCLAIMER: This is not intended as legal advice!

When in doubt:
Call Lobbying Hotline
401-330-3187

<https://www.sos.ri.gov/divisions/open-government-center/lobbying>

Am I a Lobbyist?

Many people hear the word "lobbying" and think it has a negative connotation, however, our system of representative government is based on people's ability to lobby their government. The Lobbying Reform Act of 2016 simplified the definition of who needs to register their lobbying activities. Many individuals who want to share their concerns with public officials **do not** have to register with the Department of State, but individuals lobbying on behalf of others or who are being paid to lobby, **do**.

Below are common examples of some civic and professional activities to help guide whether or not you need to register to lobby. We encourage you to reach out to our Public Information Office with any specific questions you may have about registering to lobby.

Civic Activities

Think about your personal civic engagement.
You do **NOT** need to register to lobby if:

- You are appearing solely on your own behalf.
- You are participating in or attending a political rally, protest, or other public assembly.
- You are participating in a governmental advisory committee or task force.
- You are appearing on behalf of an organization you volunteer for. (note: This exemption applies to people who are volunteers and lobby their elected officials occasionally, rather than on a consistent or regular basis.

Professional Activities

Think about what you do professionally.
You do **NOT** need to register to lobby if you:

- You are a member of the news media writing about state government.
- You are a qualified expert witness testifying in an administrative proceeding or legislative hearing.
- You are responding to a request for information made by a state agency, department, legislative body or public corporation.
- You are participating in administrative procedures.
- Your regular duties do not include lobbying or government relations, but you are appearing on behalf of a business entity by which you are employed or an organization with which you are associated.
- You are you a Licensed attorney who:
 - Represents a client in a contested administrative proceeding, a licensing or permitting proceeding, or a disciplinary proceeding; and
 - Engages in any communications with an executive branch official or office if those communications are incidental to the attorney's representation of their client rather than Lobbying activities as defined herein.
- You produce public policy reports –with data, research or analysis– that is available to the general public, including news media reports, editorials, commentary or advertisements.
- You are either an elected or appointed State or Municipal public official or their appointed designee acting in an official capacity.



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Crafting Impactful Messages

- Written and/or Verbal—whichever feels best
- Technical expertise not required!
- Speak from the heart!
- Local examples and stories are memorable
- Persistence!



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Advancing the Clean Energy Future

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