



**Testimony of Connecticut Fund for the Environment
Before the Committee on Energy and Technology**

***In support of SB 134, AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE CLEAN ENERGY
FINANCE AND INVESTMENT AUTHORITY***

In support of SB 352, AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUILDING CODE

***In support of SB 353, AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF CLASS I
RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCE PROJECTS***

***In support of SB 357, AN ACT CONCERNING ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDING
STANDARDS AND PRODUCT EFFICIENCY STANDARDS***

***In support of SB 358, AN ACT CONCERNING THE COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM***

***In support of SB 359, AN ACT CONCERNING DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY-RELATED
TECHNOLOGIES***

In support of HB 5412, AN ACT CONCERNING SHARED CLEAN ENERGY FACILITIES

***In support of HB 5414, AN ACT CONCERNING DEVELOPMENT OF CONNECTICUT-
BASED RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES***

***In support of SJ 22, RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE
CONSTITUTION LIMITING THE USE OF MONEYS CONTAINED IN THE CLEAN
ENERGY FUND***

Submitted by Lauren Savidge
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Connecticut Fund for the Environment ("CFE") is a non-profit environmental organization with over 5,500 members statewide. The mission of the CFE, and its program Save the Sound, is to protect and improve the land, air and water of Connecticut and Long Island Sound. We use legal and scientific expertise and bring people together to achieve results that benefit our environment for current and future generations.

Dear Senator Duff, Representative Reed, and members of the Committee on Energy and Technology:

Connecticut Fund for the Environment submits this testimony in support of many bills before the Committee, each briefly discussed herein. These are all very positive bills that will support Connecticut's climate goals and will lead to cleaner and healthier air in our state.

S.B. 134

We support S.B. 134, An Act Appropriating Funds to the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority, which would provide \$19 million in additional funding for the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority ("CEFIA"). CEFIA is an effective program that helps fund clean energy development and deployment in our state and we encourage additional monetary support to further make Connecticut a leader in clean energy.

S.B. 352

We support S.B. 352, An Act Concerning the State Building Code, which would incorporate the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code ("IECC"), and any subsequent revisions to such Code, into the State Building Code for commercial and residential buildings. Minimum building energy standards, as articulated in the IECC, are a cost-effective policy tool to advance energy efficiency and ultimately reduce energy costs and strain on the grid.

S.B. 353

We support S.B. 353, An Act Concerning the Development of Class I Renewable Energy Source Projects, which would increase the megawatt amount of Class I renewable energy generation facilities that an electric distribution company or private developer may own. Additionally, it would require the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("DEEP") to solicit zero emissions generation projects and allows electric distribution companies to solicit Class I renewable projects. Class I renewables are truly renewable energy sources and increasing the allowed megawatts will encourage clean energy deployment.

S.B. 358

We support S.B. 358, An Act Concerning the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Program, which would include participation in a microgrid in the definition of "energy improvements" that could receive assistance from the commercial property assessed clean energy program ("C-PACE"). Additionally, it would require CEFIA to investigate the need for a residential property assessed clean energy program. Microgrids are an effective way for a community to address its precise energy needs, eliminating the need for the old and dirty power plant during peak demand, and become more energy resilient in the face of major storms. Furthermore, the C-PACE program is an effective way for commercial buildings to finance energy efficiency and clean energy projects. It would be beneficial for our state's energy strategy to investigate the effectiveness of a residential program similar to C-PACE.

S.B. 359

We support S.B. 359, An Act Concerning Development of Energy-Related Technologies, which would open up a Public Utilities Regulatory Authority ("PURA") docket to develop energy-related technologies. Especially in light of the policies set forth in the Comprehensive Energy Strategy, we must take an in-depth look at energy technology options to advance energy efficiency and modernize the grid with input from interested stakeholders.

H.B. 5412

We support H.B. 5412, An Act Concerning Shared Clean Energy Facilities, which would allow the use of shared clean energy facilities. Shared renewable energy facilities are an effective way to give consumers access to renewable energy sources. For example, a consumer may not have a suitable roof for a solar panel but may still receive solar power through a shared renewable energy facility.

H.B. 5414

We support H.B. 5414, An Act Concerning Development of Connecticut-Based Renewable Energy Sources, which would initiate a PURA docket to develop Connecticut-based renewable energy sources. In-state renewables will help our state become energy independent and provide jobs for our residents.

S.J. 22

Finally, we support S.J. 22, Resolution Proposing An Amendment to the State Constitution Limiting the Use of Moneys Contained in the Clean Energy Fund. Any money appropriated for clean energy should be used for that purpose and not to fill holes in the budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration on these matters.

Sincerely,

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