

Dear Environment Committee member,

It is time for bold climate action. The sooner we tackle carbon pollution, the sooner the state will start reaping the health, safety, environmental, and economic benefits that follow. We must recommit Connecticut to proactive planning and concrete actions towards a healthier climate. These are three of the bills I would like you to vote for. I'm keeping tabs.

SB 7

You must ensure science-based policymaking will continue in Connecticut by strengthening climate, energy, and coastal and flood management statutes:

- a. Emissions analysis shows Connecticut's climate pollution has been rising since 2012. We need to get Connecticut back on track to meet our state 2050 climate mandates under the Global Warming Solutions Act. We need an interim target of a 45% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030. This target will also create badly needed jobs and revenue for the state.
- b. Make Connecticut a more effective climate watchdog by requiring energy planning to consider impacts on climate and greenhouse gas emissions through a comprehensive climate and energy strategy and a permanent council on climate change.
- c. Prepare Connecticut for sea level rise using the most up-to-date projections by the Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation.

HB 5363

Please support setting a price for the dirty carbon emissions that pollute our air. You can take a step further and allow some of these revenues to be returned to those most burdened by the high electric bills and pollution that come from our reliance on fossil fuels, through strategic reinvestment in clean energy and energy efficiency in low-income communities.

SB 345

Climate change is based in science and affects every aspect of our lives. Make climate change part of Connecticut's public schools curriculum so our children can more effectively address the links between human activities and climate change.

I urge you to do the right thing for not only my family, but for all residents of Connecticut—please put us on a positive path to a sustainable, healthy, and renewable energy future by strengthening and voting for SB 7, HB 5363, and SB 345.

Sincerely,

Ms Helen Applebaum

75 Buckingham Rd New Milford, CT 06776-2241 helenapplebaum@mac.com