

Honorable Senator Miner, Senator Kennedy, Representative Demicco and distinguished members of the committee:

#### HB 5363 - An Act Establishing a Carbon Price for Fossil Fuels Sold in Connecticut

I am in support of this bill. In order to reduce our use of fossil fuels and move to a clean energy economy, this step is essential. While I think the idea of giving dividends back to residents is a nice idea, I would prefer to see the monies spent creating infrastructure that reduces emissions, for example - investing in wind and solar in the state. In addition, fossil fuel emissions have disproportionately affected low income communities via additional health burdens. Directing money here would be the most fair since they have suffered more. Finally, methane leaks from the gas infrastructure in our state is also a disaster for the climate. I would like a tax on leaks that forces the fossil fuel industry to address this hidden risk. Methane (aka natural gas) is a much stronger global warming gas (though it lasts for a shorter period in the atmosphere). If we are serious about addressing climate change, this needs to be included.

#### SB 345 - An Act Concerning Climate Change Education in Connecticut Schools

I am in support of this bill. My only concern is that we need a curriculum that is written by expert educators, without interference from effected industries. Any curriculum should include actions that are the most effective at reducing emissions, according to current science.

#### SB 7 - An Act Concerning Climate Change Planning & Resilency

I am in support of this bill. However, I think it should be strenghtened and more ambitious in its goals. We need to move more quickly to 100% clean, renewable energy (wind, solar, hydro). Aiming for 100% by 2035 is an aggressive, but essential, target if we are serious about minimizing climate change. In addition, climate effects on all of our infrastructure are required. Incorporating methane (aka natural gas) as a significant fossil fuel is also important, given its high global warming impact.

Thank you very much for your consideration of these bills. I hope that you will support them as noted above.

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