

Dear Committee Members,

Please SUPPORT and FIX sections of SB 9: AAC Connecticut's Energy Future:

With emissions inventories showing a rise in carbon pollution in recent years in Connecticut, it is critical that you pass bills in this session to put Connecticut on track to meet both short-term and long-term targets. We are lagging behind our neighbors on climate leadership.

1. Renewable Portfolio Standard (Sec. 1—SUPPORT BUT MAKE STRONGER): We need an even stronger RPS than is proposed to ensure Connecticut meets the Global Warming Solutions Act's greenhouse gas reduction requirements. Fifty percent renewables by 2030 will put us on that economy-boosting renewable infrastructure trajectory.

2. Net Metering (Sec. 4 and 5—OPPOSE): The proposal to eliminate net metering would cripple a renewable energy future for Connecticut and our solar industry. Solar users have property rights that should allow them to keep the unused solar power they make during the day, store it in a battery, and use it when they choose. Any changes to Connecticut's net metering program should mirror neighboring states' laws that protect the right to consume and store self-generated clean energy.

3. Energy Efficiency Savings Targets (Sec. 7—SUPPORT BUT MAKE STRONGER): Strong mandates for energy efficiency are some of the most effective investments in cutting climate change, protecting public health, and building a green workforce. Now more than ever, after devastating raids of the energy efficiency funds, the state must be more aggressive—like Massachusetts—and double the current annual savings target proposed in SB 9.

4. Clean Energy Fund/Green Bank (Sec. 9—SUPPORT): The raids against clean energy funds last session hurt renewable growth in Connecticut, and must not be repeated. Unfortunately SB 9 attempts only a minimal, time-limited increase in Green Bank funding (through 2025) and would allow the CT Green Bank to become self-sustaining without future ratepayer support. After massive cuts to clean energy funding last fall, thousands of jobs and our commitment to a healthy future and a stronger economy are at risk. Increasing access beyond the governor's proposal is imperative.

ALSO

Support Senate Bill 7: I strongly support the greenhouse gas emissions reduction target (45% below 2001 levels by 2030) recommended by the Governor's Council on Climate Change and incorporated into Senate Bill #7. I urge you to schedule an early public hearing for SB 7 and support its passage. This bill would will get us back on the right path towards reducing carbon pollution, increasing clean energy and electric vehicles, create jobs, and grow the economy.

Thank you for all your work,

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