

## Testimony in Support with Changes of SB-882

SUBJECT LINE: In Support with Changes of SB-882

TO: [ettestimony@cga.ct.gov](mailto:ettestimony@cga.ct.gov)

CC: (find your legislators [here](#))

Dear Chair Needleman and Chair Arconti, Vice Chair Winfield and Allie-Brennan, Ranking Member Formica and Ferraro, and distinguished members of the Energy and Technology Committee:

My name is Mary Johnson and I am a recent Wesleyan University graduate. I am writing to urge members of the committee to support and amend **SB-882: An Act Concerning Climate Change Mitigation and Home Energy Affordability**. This bill would reaffirm Connecticut's commitment to addressing climate change by partially codifying Governor Lamont's [Executive Order No. 3](#) into state law. However, this bill as currently written fails to live up to the 2040 net-zero electricity sector target that [the governor has championed](#); furthermore, it does not align Connecticut with the [UN's 2050 net zero emissions target](#), and it leaves open the possibility that CT will continue to rely on fossil fuels well into the future. As a result, this bill must be amended to include provisions which will ensure that Connecticut will do its part to aggressively combat climate change.

Necessary amendments to the bill are as follows: require all electricity supplied and generated within the entire state to be 100% zero-carbon by 2040, require a 2050 net zero carbon dioxide equivalent emissions target, require a [moratorium](#) on the construction of new fossil fuel power plants statewide, and ensure that the DEEP commissioner cannot alter emission reduction targets or determine CT's emission levels in a manner that is inconsistent with scientific data.

As a young person who has grown up against the backdrop of the climate crisis, I am afraid about what the climate crisis will mean for my future and my children's future if not addressed. A recent team of researchers from Harvard University recently found that the fine particles produced from burning fossil fuels are responsible for the deaths of 8 million people each year, **more people than have died worldwide from COVID-19 to date**. It is unconscionable to stand by when you have the opportunity to play a role in lessening the suffering and death caused by carbon emissions every year, not to mention to reduce the long-term threat to human life and prosperity caused by global warming.

I am 22 years old, and I am afraid to start a family and bring children into a world where they may have no future. As a young person, I find it unacceptably tragic that the generations of today and tomorrow are at risk of being denied the opportunities that most of those in power have enjoyed their entire lives. Even more unfortunate are [the millions of annual deaths](#) caused by fossil fuels, as well as global warming's disproportionate impact on [low-income individuals](#) and [people of color](#). The time for a sustainable and equitable society is now, and Connecticut must lead the country in completing this necessary transition.

For these reasons, I ask for the Energy and Technology Committee to amend SB-882 to include the changes I have requested and to subsequently pass it.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Mary Johnson  
Middletown, CT