

Testimony in Support with Changes of SB-882

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 Talia Lanckton, and I am a Middletown resident and Wesleyan University student. 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.

As a student and organizer with the Sunrise Movement, I have personal stake in Connecticut living up to the governor's and the United Nation's carbon emissions standards. I am studying for a future that is being affronted every day by the inability of politicians to take the bold stance necessary to confront the seriousness of the climate crisis. **This bill must be amended to 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.** Fossil fuel plants are known to have a [disproportionate impact on communities of color](#), and [the health impacts of these plants have exacerbated the effects of the COVID-19](#) pandemic rendering the virus even more fatal for these same communities. It is about time that Connecticut recognize the health, equity, and environmental impacts of fossil fuel combustion and commit to a plan that ensures a just and sustainably society for all.

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,
Talia Lanckton
Middletown, CT