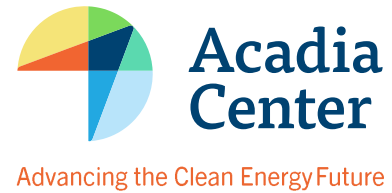


# Testimony of Amy McLean

Connecticut Director and Senior Policy Advocate

Public Hearing, March 4, 2021



## Before the Energy and Technology Committee

Honorable Chairpersons Arconti and Needleman, Vice Chairpersons Winfield and Allie- Brennan, Ranking Members Formica and Ferraro and Committee Members:

Acadia Center appreciates this opportunity to provide written testimony. Acadia Center is a nonprofit research and advocacy organization committed to advancing the clean energy future. Acadia Center advocates for an equitable clean energy future for Connecticut, tackling regulatory and legislative energy policy, transportation, energy efficiency, beneficial electrification, utility innovation, and renewable energy.

## Testimony in support of S.B. [S.B. No. 882](#) An Act Climate Change Mitigation and Home Energy Affordability.

Connecticut has been a catalyst for advances in clean energy and climate goals in the region. It was the first state to set greenhouse gas targets for 2050 and the first to create a stakeholder board to advance energy efficiency improvements. Connecticut set a target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45% by 2030, and 80% by 2050 and Governor Lamont's [executive order](#) mandates that Connecticut's electricity sector reach zero emissions by 2040.

Although Executive Order 3 requires zero carbon emissions from the electric sector by 2040, through the recent Integrated Resource Plan DEEP calls for legislation to put this target into statute. Acadia Center agrees with DEEP that a statutory target for zero carbon electric grid by 2040 would complement the broader economy-wide decarbonization goals laid out in the Global Warming Solutions Act. By passing legislation, the state will ensure that the zero-carbon goal has the force of law necessary to drive the significant changes in the state's electric sector that are necessary in order to reach the 2040 goal and beyond.

Acadia Center agrees with the provision in this bill that will allow DEEP to procure up to 300,000 MWh of electricity (equivalent to approximately one percent of Connecticut's load) from demand response and energy efficiency measures. These resources will save customers money and provide stability and reliability to the electric grid in all hours of the day while increasing the deployment of intermittent resources such as wind and solar. Acadia Center cautions that this provision needs to be above and beyond the energy efficiency funds presently being used for the Energize CT programs in the state.

Acadia Center supports the requirement that property owners listing homes for sale or lease provide prospective buyers and tenants with either a Home Energy Label – a number generated during a home energy audit that summarizes the property's energy efficiency – or the last twelve months of energy bills. Affordability and efficiency begin with transparency into costs and opportunities to reduce them.

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Please support this important bill. Connecticut needs your help to make it the best state for all its residents and this will be one critical step in the right direction.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

**For more information:**

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