

## 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 Chloe Odabashian 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.

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.

Climate change is the most pressing concern for me and the future of everyone. The fact that people do not put it at the top of every list of concerns is appalling to me. Already, people that do not cause climate change are feeling the effects and environmental refugees are already a huge problem. As someone that has a chance, has the power, to mitigate the awful and terrifying future that we currently face, I hope that you would take it. I am from Los Angeles, California and have seen the first-hand impacts of climate change with the horrible fires that have disrupted my life multiple times. Many of my friends have lost their homes, even more evacuated, and the air quality makes it impossible to leave the house. Every time the Santa Ana winds start up, everyone in the city holds their breath waiting for the next Woolsey Fire to strike and take it more communities. Driving through the canyon, I can see all of the ruins of homes and lives that were absolutely destroyed. I know that is across the country, but you have a chance to lead by example. Please take climate change seriously and pass legislation to mitigate its affects.

As a college student, it is deeply unfortunate 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,  
Chloe Odabashian  
Middletown, CT