

Energy and Technology Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-882

AN ACT CONCERNING CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND HOME ENERGY

Title: AFFORDABILITY.

Vote Date: 3/18/2021

Vote Action: JOINT FAVORABLE Substitute

PH Date: 3/4/2021

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

[Rep. Bobby G. Gibson, 15th Dist.](#)

[Rep. Josh Elliott, 88th Dist.](#)

[Rep. David Michel, 146th Dist.](#)

[Rep. Geraldo C. Reyes, 75th Dist.](#)

[Rep. Joshua M. Hall, 7th Dist.](#)

[Rep. Travis Simms, 140th Dist.](#)

[Rep. Mary M. Mushinsky, 85th Dist.](#)

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill aims to achieve a zero-carbon electric supply by the year 2040

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

John Blair, Associate Counsel at the Connecticut Business & Industry Association has the following concerns with SB 882:

- Section 1 and 2 of this bill proposes to reduce the level of emissions of greenhouse gas for electricity supplied to electric customers to zero percent by January 1, 2040
 - CBIA recommends the zero greenhouse gas goal of January 1, 2040 should be changed to goal rather than mandate
 - We also believe that it would be advisable to add more specificity to the greenhouse gas reduction goals by sectors, for example, goals for energy and transportation sectors specifically spelled out.
- SB 882 leaves some questions unanswered as to how we achieve such a mandate. The proposal does not appear to contemplate greenhouse gases associated with the generation of electricity to power electric vehicles. The bill does not appear to take into

account the emittance of greenhouse gas in the manufacturing of electric vehicles or the disposal of their batteries

- The bill does not outline how this mandate would be enforced. It would be beneficial to know what ultimately will occur if the State cannot achieve this mandate.

Katie Dykes, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection supports SB 882 because of the immediate need to stop the acceleration of climate change and its impacts on the residents and businesses of Connecticut, and to provide transparency to customers regarding the energy costs they can expect to pay before they commit to a new home

Marissa P. Gillett, Chairman (PURA) requests the following **BOLDED** changes to SB 882:

- (2) The authority shall review such contract dispute brought pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection. The authority **[shall] may** decide any such contract dispute by issuing a declaratory ruling or a final decision in a contested case proceeding, and may order legal and equitable remedies. Any party to the contract shall have the right to appeal to the Superior Court from any such declaratory ruling or final decision issued pursuant to this section.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Councilwoman Wildaliz Bermudez of the Court of Common Council supports SB 882 with the following amendments to Section 1:

- Require all supply AND generation to be 100% zero-carbon by 2040
- Develop an aggressive final target for greenhouse gas emissions of net zero by 2050
- Establish a moratorium on new fossil fuel plants
- Clarify DEEP Commissioner oversight role, including checks and balances and oversight by a Diverse board of community representatives
- Ensure the state of CT is inclusive of communities of color and LMI communities in planning and budgeting processes, by appointing members of the community to oversight roles.

The Connecticut Green Bank supports SB 882, in particular Section 1 that codifies a zero emissions electric sector for the state by the year 2040

Richard E. Sobolewski, Acting Consumer Counsel generally supports the bill and is in favor of meeting the State's 2040 climate-change goals outlined in Section 1 in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible.

OCC has no proposed changes to Section 2 of the Raised Bill. Regarding Sections 3 and 4 of the Raised Bill, OCC believes that providing prospective renters and homeowners with 2 the important consumer protection information from a Home Energy Label is an important step in raising consumer education of energy efficiency measures and programs that can assist with steps to make a home more energy efficient

Mike Urgo, First Selectman of North Stonington, CT supports SB 882 because it supports the goal of carbon neutrality while giving prospective buyers the knowledge they need to make informed decisions

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

Reported by: Jason Snukis

Date: April 5, 2021