



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 10

AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING CLIMATE CHANGE

To: Honorable Co-Chairs Senator Needleman, Representative Arconti, Ranking Members Senator Formica, Representative Ferraro and distinguished members of the Energy and Technology Committee,

From: Anne Hulick, Connecticut Director, Clean Water Action

Clean Water Action is a national, environmental advocacy non-profit organization focusing on protecting our nation's waters, mitigating climate change and preventing pollution that harms public health and the environment. Poor air quality caused by climate change is widely acknowledged to be one of the most pressing public health issues of our time.¹ Connecticut's air quality received a grade of F² and we're also experiencing changing weather patterns, severe storms, a statewide drought, extreme heat days and expanded vector borne diseases.

Bold actions to increase energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and rapidly shift to renewable energy sources are critical to assuring the public's health and creating vibrant, resilient communities across Connecticut. SB 10 sets a bold target of 100% clean, renewable electric energy by 2040, a goal that will put Connecticut on a path to mitigating the public health and environmental threats of climate change. Clean Water Action strongly supports this and applauds the Governor and leaders of the General Assembly for working to codify this goal of Executive Order 3 into law.

The bill also sets out critical interim targets which will assure that the state is monitoring—and meeting—carbon reduction goals. SB 10 includes a critical provision to authorize the Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to adopt, by reference, California's medium and heavy-duty vehicle emission standards. Approximately 35% of Connecticut's greenhouse gas emissions come from transportation, and in lieu of federal rollbacks of emission standards for vehicles, SB 10 assures that Connecticut will not fall behind by doing everything possible to address emissions from this sector.

Lastly, section 3 provides new and important mechanisms to enable Connecticut agencies to solicit and procure energy in ways that assure flexible, reliable options for meeting the state's energy needs and simultaneously, achieving bold carbon reduction goals.

Clean Water Action strongly supports SB 10 and urges passage this session.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne B. Hulick".

Anne Hulick, JD, MS, RN

Connecticut Director, Clean Water Action

¹ <https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/ten-threats-to-global-health-in-2019>

² <https://www.lung.org/our-initiatives/healthy-air/sota/city-rankings/states/connecticut/>