



Tuesday, February 2, 2021

Dear Speaker Mariano and President Spilka,

We are reaching out on behalf of Mass Power Forward, a statewide coalition of more than 200 organizations, to thank you for sending last session's climate bill (S.9) back to Governor Charlie Baker's desk. While we hope that Governor Baker signs the bill in its entirety, we know that he has continued to express reservations about some of the bill's provisions. If Governor Baker declines to sign the bill, we are asking you to turn this bill into a law, without any weakening amendments, no later than Friday, February 19.

Last session's climate bill will take important steps toward a healthier, safer, and more just future. Some of the bill's key provisions include:

- Environmental justice language that will protect vulnerable and historically marginalized communities that have borne the brunt of pollution and other harms
- An increase to the renewable portfolio standard (RPS), reaching 40% renewable electricity by 2030
- Expanded procurements of offshore wind energy
- Efficiency standards to reduce energy waste in our appliances
- The opportunity for cities and towns to opt into a stronger "net zero" code for new buildings
- An expanded mandate for the Department of Public Utilities, including equity and emissions reductions
- A requirement to reduce Massachusetts' greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50% relative to 1990 levels by 2030

Passing last session's bill into law as soon as possible will clear the way for much needed clean energy and environmental justice legislation to advance in the 2021–2022 session. There are still many important policies that need to be considered, including putting Massachusetts on a path to 100% renewable energy and ensuring a just transition.

If Governor Baker again vetoes the bill or returns it with weakening amendments, we ask you to reject those amendments and pass the bill into law. As you know, February 19 is the deadline to file bills for the new session. We hope to see this bill passed into law before then, so we can turn our focus to the other important clean energy and environmental justice legislation awaiting action.

Please ensure that last session's climate bill becomes a law no later than Friday, February 19, and please commit to taking further action this session for 100% renewable energy and a just transition away from fossil fuels. We are counting on you to secure a cleaner, healthier, safer future for Massachusetts.

Sincerely,

Planning Team, Mass Power Forward

Environment Massachusetts

UU Mass Action

Community Action Works Campaigns

Sierra Club Massachusetts Chapter

Pipe Line Awareness Network for the Northeast

Clean Water Action

Our Climate

Climate Action Now, Western Mass (CAN)

Massachusetts Climate Action Network

Sunrise Western Mass

350 Massachusetts for a Better Future