

The 100% Renewable Energy Act

Rep. Marjorie Decker, Rep. Sean Garballey (HD 3092) An Act re-powering Massachusetts with 100 percent renewable energy

Sen. Jamie Eldridge (SD 1625) An Act transitioning Massachusetts to 100 per cent renewable energy

We can envision a future powered entirely by clean, renewable energy. Massachusetts should lead the way to 100 percent renewable energy to clean up our air, protect public health, and ensure a safe climate for our children.

Clean energy is growing rapidly in Massachusetts

Today, we're generating more than 240 times as much solar energy in Massachusetts as we did just 10 years ago.

Massachusetts is poised to make similar progress on offshore wind in the coming years. And new technologies like electric vehicles, energy storage, and air source heat pumps are being deployed at an accelerating rate.

We are still using too much dirty energy

For all of the progress we've made on renewable energy, most of Massachusetts' energy still comes from dirty, polluting sources like gas and oil.

Dirty energy is harming our health. Pollution from fossil fuels is linked to asthma, cardiovascular disease, and even premature death.

Dirty energy is threatening our climate. We are already seeing the impacts of climate change, with an increase in extreme storms, flooding, and droughts. By 2100, sea levels could rise by 7-10 feet in the Boston area.

100 percent renewable energy is achievable

Massachusetts has the resources and the know-how to get our energy from clean, renewable sources:

- We can make our homes and businesses more efficient. Through efficiency measures, we can reduce energy consumption by 40–60 percent by 2050.
- We can replace fossil fuel power plants with renewable energy resources like solar and wind. Offshore wind could generate more than 19 times as much electricity as Massachusetts consumes on an annual basis. Just by installing solar panels on every rooftop, we could generate 47 percent of Massachusetts' electricity from solar.
- We can convert other uses of fossil fuels, such as heating and transportation, to clean electricity. Air source heat pumps, electric vehicles, and other innovative technologies will allow us to heat our buildings and power our transportation system with electricity from renewable sources.

A growing movement for 100 percent renewable energy

More than 160 global companies, including Apple, P&G, and Biogen, have committed to 100 percent renewable energy targets. Major institutions like Boston University and Partners HealthCare are also pledging to go 100 percent renewable.

Hawaii and California have passed bills committing to 100 percent carbon-free electricity by 2045, and officials in ten other states are considering similar targets.

The 100% Renewable Energy Act

The 100% Renewable Energy Act (HD 3092, SD 1625) will:

- Set a goal of 100 percent renewable electricity by 2035, and 100 percent renewable energy economy-wide (including heating and transportation) by 2045.
- Accelerate the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) to reach 100 percent renewable electricity by 2035.
- Require the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) to set interim renewable energy targets for 2030 and 2040, and issue regulations to meet those targets.
- Establish a Clean Energy Workforce Development Fund to support training and job placement assistance for Massachusetts residents to work in the clean energy industry.