

See back for a note from your constituent!



# PLEASE SUPPORT THE 2024 CLIMATE AGENDA

The CT Coalition for Climate Action is a broad-based group comprising 40+ organizations including health care providers, scientists, environmental organizations, religious groups, renewable energy, business, justice, and other entities representing over 300,000 members that believe in healthy homes and resilient communities.

**The Coalition supports legislation this session that addresses the climate crisis and environmental health burdens facing Connecticut by:**

**1**  
**Taking Action on Climate Change**

An icon depicting three stylized human figures holding up rectangular signs, symbolizing public action or protest.

Connecticut needs to adopt policies that will advance the state's goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by:

1. Updating the state's Global Warming Solutions Act.
2. Planning for the reduction of our reliance on natural gas.
3. Investing in renewable energy and the green economy.
4. Supporting local sustainable purchasing.
5. Leveraging nature-based solutions to mitigate climate change.

**HB 5004, An Act Concerning the Implementation of Certain Climate Change Measures** currently addresses many of these vital issues by:

- a. Updating emissions targets, directing PURA to open a docket on the future of natural gas, and requiring an alternatives analysis for fossil fuel generation projects.
- b. Incentivizing increased solar and battery storage deployment and leveraging federal funding.
- c. Recommending efficiency standards for non polluting HVAC and hot water systems, and setting a target for deployment of efficient residential heat pumps.

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## Reducing Vehicle Emissions

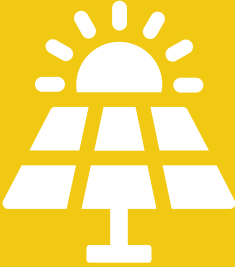


It is critical that Connecticut clean up emissions from motor vehicles, the largest source of the state’s greenhouse gas emissions and a major source of health-harming pollution.

**HB 5485, An Act Concerning Transportation Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles** establishes an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Coordinating Council to guide the development of a roadmap to ensure the smooth transition to electric vehicles. While the bill does not require the electrification of our transportation sector, it recognizes that this is where the future of transportation is headed. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency wrote, “by all accounts, a shift to zero-emission vehicles is underway, and it presents a strong potential for dramatic reductions in GHG and criteria pollutant emissions.” HB 5485 also allows the state of Connecticut to capitalize on federal funding needed to update our transportation infrastructure.

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## Increasing Solar Deployment



Connecticut lags behind our neighbor states in solar capacity. Several bills introduced this session would help address this by:

1. Eliminating or significantly increasing caps on the commercial solar programs.
2. Establishing a uniform approach to local taxation of commercial solar projects.
3. Directing DEEP to conduct a study regarding existing community solar programs and make recommendations for new programs or initiatives to promote community solar.
4. Setting targets for annual residential solar deployment of 500 megawatts per year and a goal of 250,000 rooftop solar installations by 2035.
5. Simplifying the application process for solar canopy projects.

While it is not yet clear which bill will be the vehicle for these proposals (possibly **HB 5232, An Act Concerning Solar Projects Throughout the State**), it is our understanding that the Energy and Technology Committee is continuing to work on a comprehensive solar package that will include some or all of these measures.

**WE URGE YOUR SUPPORT OF THESE CRITICAL PROPOSALS TO BUILD ON CONNECTICUT’S LONG HISTORY OF INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP.** These proposals begin aligning our efforts with our neighboring states and will protect our shared environment while improving public health, increasing renewable energy, and stabilizing energy costs.

**A Note From Your Constituent**

*As your constituent, I urge you to prioritize legislation this year to take action on climate change, reduce emission from vehicles, and grow renewable energy.*

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