



RE: Employer support for the Next Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy

Dear Honorable Members of the Massachusetts General Court:

As businesses, investors, and institutions with significant operations in the Commonwealth, we write to express our support for the swift passage of [S.9](#) - An Act Creating A Next Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy, as written and refiled from the 191st legislative session. Two years of hearings, input, deliberations, and negotiations produced this remarkably ambitious climate toolkit and we applaud the achievement of the General Court.

This legislation will codify the state's net-zero emissions goal and set interim emissions reduction targets of at least 50% by 2030 and 75% by 2040. The bill also includes an increase to the Renewable Portfolio Standard requiring 40% of the state's electricity to come from renewable sources by 2030. This proposal also updates the commonwealth's appliance efficiency, allows communities to adopt more ambitious building codes defined by the administration, advances the offshore wind industry, and ensures equity issues are addressed in future state planning.

The ambitious interim emissions reduction targets adequately reflect the urgency to decarbonize our economy illustrated in the [IPCC's Report on 1.5 °C](#). The longer we delay putting these climate smart policies in place, the steeper the climb to hit our 2030 goals. This is true both as we establish our own corporate commitments and for the goals it essential that the Commonwealth achieve.

As we work to create a sustainable economy, it is critical that we achieve a just transition. One of the many laudable provisions with S.9 would create new equity protections and processes, so all of our communities have a voice and a stake in the cleaner future. [Recent research](#) from

Harvard's T.H. Chan School of Public Health directly linking increased levels of exposure to vehicle emissions co-pollutants like PM 2.5 to elevated mortality rates from COVID-19 underscores the urgency to codify protections for the Commonwealth's environmental justice communities.

It is with this sense of urgency we call on lawmakers to enact S.9 - An Act Creating A Next Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy as soon as possible. The climate, and our communities, cannot wait any longer for action.

Thank you,

As You Sow

Autodesk

Bemis

Boston Common Asset Management

Dean's Beans

DSM North America

Eastern Bank

Green Century Capital

Habitus Incorporated

Miller / Howard Investments

ReVision Energy

Sisters of St. Dominic

Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Aberdeen

Studio G Architects

The Sustainability Group at Loring, Wolcott, and Coolidge

Trillium Asset Management

Trip Zero

Vedalia Living

Zevin Asset Management

For additional information contact Dave Robba, Senior Associate for State Policy, Ceres (drobba@ceres.org)