



2017-2018 Sierra Club Legislative Priorities

Bill #	Subject	Summary	House	Senate
Climate/Clean Energy				
H. 2700	An Act to increase the renewable portfolio standard and ensure compliance with the Global Warming Solutions Act	Increase the rate of increase in the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), a legal mandate setting the lower limit of renewable energy that electric utilities are required to purchase. It currently increases 1% a year, this bill would boost that to at least 2% a year, and require municipal electric utilities – currently exempt -- to begin complying with the RPS.	Khan	
S. 1880	An Act Creating 21st Century Massachusetts Clean Energy Jobs	This "omnibus" energy bill would create an Oil Heat Fuel Energy Efficiency Trust Fund, establish a Nuclear Power Station Post-closure Trust Fund, establish and make public a home energy rating and label, establish an Energy Plan Advisory Committee, require interim 2030 and 2040 emissions limits for the Global Warming Solutions Act, the development and adoption of a climate adaptation management action plan, boost the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) annual increase to 3%, end the municipal utility exemption from the RPS, enable community empowerment contracts, prohibit a pipeline tax, and more.		Pacheco
S. 1849	An Act transitioning Massachusetts to 100% Renewable Energy	Would set goal of 100% renewable energy economy-wide by 2050 and 100% renewable electricity by 2035.		
S. 1845	An Act relative to protecting consumers of gas and electricity from paying for leaked and unaccounted for gas	Would prohibit utilities from charging ratepayers for the cost of lost gas.		Eldridge
H. 1726	An Act to Promote Green Infrastructure, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and create jobs	Would introduce a price on carbon dioxide pollution, with 20% of the revenues dedicated to green infrastructure, and the rest rebated according to progressive formula.	Benson	
S. 1847	An Act clarifying authority and responsibilities of the Department of Public Utilities [Pipeline Tax Prohibition]	Would enhance the review of pipeline capacity contracts and address other needed reforms identified over the course of previous and ongoing proceedings related to gas infrastructure projects. This legislation would codify the SJC's ruling prohibiting electric ratepayer financing of gas pipelines; ensure the public's ability to intervene at the DPU; protect ratepayers against self-dealing by energy conglomerates; enhance protections for landowners and conservation areas; and hold gas utilities to high standards regarding the	Kulik	Eldridge

		capacity they are allowed to contract for.		
H. 2706	An Act relative to solar power and the green economy	Would set goal of 17.5% of Mass. electricity from solar by 2025, 25% by 2030, and eliminate net metering caps. Would also boost Renewable Portfolio Standard (similar to Khan bill above).	Mark	Eldridge
H. 3281	An Act relative to public investment in fossil fuels [Divestment]	Would require immediate divestment of Mass. state pension funds from holdings in coal.	Decker	Donnelly
S. 1839	An Act relative to home energy efficiency	Would require home energy audits and sharing of energy performance labels ("MPG stickers for homes") with buyers prior to home sales.	Donato	Donnelly
Transportation				
S. 477	An Act establishing tracking and reporting requirements for Massachusetts transportation fuels and associated greenhouse gas emissions	Would require Mass. Dept. of Environmental Protection to track carbon intensity of transportation fuels entering Mass.	Smizik	Pacheco
H. 2699	An Act promoting zero-emission vehicles	Would codify \$2,500 EV rebate program, direct electric utilities to establish "time of use" electricity rates, and more.	Hecht, Smizik	
Environmental Justice				
H. 1739	An Act relative to the construction of generating facilities [Environmental Justice]	Would lower barriers to public participation in energy project siting decisions and help ensure dirty polluting projects are not disproportionately located near minority or low income communities.	Dubois	
Land Protection				
H. 2108	An Act protecting the natural resources of the Commonwealth	Would help protect public parks, conservation land, forests, beaches, and other natural resource land (Article 97 land).	Balser	Eldridge
Solid Waste/Plastics				
S. 424	An Act reducing plastic bag pollution	Would ban single-use plastic shopping bags statewide and require that the alternatives be more sustainable (such as paper bags must have at least 40% minimum post-consumer content).	Ehrlich	Eldridge
H. 3252	An Act to restrict the use of polystyrene	Would ban the sale of polystyrene foam food containers and their use by food establishments.	Smizik	Barrett
H. 412	An Act to reduce packaging waste	Would require all retail food establishments to use food ware that is biodegradable, compostable, recyclable, or reusable for any food prepared or packaged on premises. This bill will reduce solid waste and litter, and save municipalities money.	Connolly	Creem

Respect for Native Peoples				
H. 1707	Resolve providing for the creation of a special commission relative to the seal and motto of the Commonwealth	Removing offensive depiction of Native people in state seal.	Rushing	
Protect Wildlife				
H. 3021	An Act regulating the enforcement of illegal hunting practices	Would modernize penalties for poaching -- the illegal killing and harming of wildlife -- and enter Massachusetts into an interstate law enforcement network, ending our status as a poacher's paradise and protecting wildlife, tourism, and business.	Atkins	
H. 419	An Act relative to ivory and rhino horn trafficking	Would crack down on the illegal trafficking of wildlife by banning the sale of elephant ivory and rhino horn in the Commonwealth.	Ehrlich	Lewis
H. 2113	An Act to protect Massachusetts pollinators	Would place bee-killing neonicotinoid pesticides only in the hands of those trained to use them. It would also place limits on the timing of use and set up parameters for education and training of licensed users in recognition of the significant drops in the populations of honeybees and other native pollinators in recent years and the growing scientific consensus around the harmful effects of neonicotinoid pesticides.	Dykema	
Transparency/Governance				
H. 2091	An Act automatically registering eligible voters and enhancing safeguards against fraud	Would shift voter registration from opt-in to opt-out system.	Kocot	Creem
H. 3127	An Act for a U.S. Constitutional Amendment and Amendments Convention [We the People Act]	Passage of a 28th amendment to the U.S. Constitution that declares corporations are not people, and that money spent to influence elections is not protected free speech.	Atkins	Eldridge

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