



Sierra Club: Legislative Update

April 2026

What happened in the MA House?

November 2025 - H.4744 - Climate Rollback

February 2026 - House passed H.5175

- Removed some of the worst climate provisions in H.4744
- Good things in bill include portable solar, V2G, removing biomass from RPS, protecting labor in geothermal, protections against third party suppliers

But....



What happened in the MA House?

H.5175 also includes

- \$1 billion cut to Mass Save's budget
- 70% cut to Alternative Compliance Payment (ACP) funding



53
%



LMI Incentive %

Historically, market-rate incentives exceeded LMI incentives, but 2025 was the first year that the majority went to LMI households.

Other stats:

- Electric participation in Hard-to-Reach communities increased from 29% to 36%
- 98% of HTR municipalities saw increased participation and 20% rose above the statewide average

Read more here: https://350mass.betterfutureproject.org/mass_save_and_distributive_justice

Alternative Compliance Payments

When a supplier doesn't meet its clean energy procurement obligation, it makes an alternative compliance payment.

DOER uses this for new renewable energy, energy efficiency, and other clean energy projects.

- Climate leaders community program (money for municipalities)
- Affordable housing decarbonization grant program
- Advancing massachusetts power
- Clean energy siting and permitting division

FY 2026 ACP Spending Plan

The chart below represents contracts and programs with encumbered funds or anticipated spending in FY26.

Program	FY2026 Spending Plan
Advancing Massachusetts Power (AMP) Energy Storage Grants	\$ 45,000,000.00
Affordable Housing Decarbonization (AHD) Grant Program	\$ 20,000,000.00
Appliance Standards Review - Energy Solution Consulting	\$ 205,484.00
Auction Services	\$ 500,000.00
CELT Initiative - Clean Energy & Environmental Legacy Transition	\$ 5,405,083.00
Climate Leader Communities	\$ 51,400,000.00
Community Shared Solar Marketplace	\$ 5,000,000.00
CPACE - Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy	\$ 446,392.00
CPS - Clean Peak Energy Portfolio Standard	\$ 400,000.00
Decarbonization Implementation Grant (DIG) Program	\$ 22,334,464.00
Energy Code Training	\$ 50,000.00
Fossil Fuel or Electric Resistance Heating System for Low-Income Housing - ISA with EOHLIC to Support Programming	\$ 110,000.00
GIP Legal Support	\$ 987,950.00
Green Communities Municipal Energy Technical Assistance Grant Program (META)	\$ 542,517.00
Heat Pump Training Labs	\$ 3,000,000.00
Large Building Energy Reporting	\$ 456,106.00
LBE Solar-Decarbonization Grant Program	\$ 23,000,000.00
Leading by Example - Feasibility Studies	\$ 628,492.00
Low-Income Services Solar Program (LISSP)	\$ 5,020,000.00
MassEnergy Insight	\$ 194,499.00
MBTA - Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Projects	\$ 3,500,000.00
Merrimack Valley Renewal Fund (MVERF) Geothermal Microgrid	\$ 4,000,000.00
Municipal Decarbonization Planning	\$ 1,000,000.00
Power Forward - Interconnection Studies for Housing	\$ 3,000,000.00
Procurement Consultants	\$ 2,188,505.00
Production Tracking System Administrative Transfer	\$ 2,585,322.00
Rate Relief - Residential Electric Ratepayers	\$ 180,000,000.00
Restoration for Solar Decarbonization Grant Program	\$ 5,000,000.00
RPS Portal	\$ 1,000,000.00
SMART - Solar Mass Renewable Target	\$ 1,502,300.00
Studies/Expert Witness for DPU Intervention	\$ 1,931,700.00
Technical Potential of Load Management Study	\$ 289,830.00
Thermal Energy Demand Intensity (TEDI) Consultant	\$ 200,000.00
UMass Clean Energy Extension Initiative	\$ 1,707,979.00

What do we want in the Senate version?



Address natural gas costs



Preserve Mass Save



Stop exorbitant utility costs

Pass our moratorium on gas expansion near EJ communities (SCJC), limit GSEP spending as per the AGO recommendation & stakeholder group, and take Mass Save away from gas utilities (ELM priority amendment in House)

Remove all mentions of funding cuts as per Amendment #113 from Rep. Uytterhoeven, and hold strong against House false & outdated narratives

Right now utility companies charge to ratepayers their lobbying expenses, a practice that is illegal in many states. The Governor's draft and House Energy draft had this section in but Ways and Means removed it.

***Sierra Club Priorities:* Changing utility business practices will result in affordability benefits.**

- Hold polluters accountable
- Put people over corporate profit
- Reduce energy burden for low-income households



DECENTRALIZED

Lobby Day

Tuesday, May 12th 12-5pm

RSVP by April 28th:

bit.ly/LOVEYOURMOTHERMPF



**LOVE
YOUR
MOTHER
EARTH!**



Join other environmental advocates
on May 12th and meet with your
State Senators (in your district)

bit.ly/LOVEYOURMOTHERMPF

Where are we? Big Moving Bills

Mass Ready Act aka the Environmental Bond Bill (S.3050) in Senate Ways & Means

- a. Senate passed their version on April 15th
- b. ban plastic carryout bags, makes an already common 10-cent fee for paper bags universal, and strictly limits when restaurants can hand out plastic cutlery, take-out containers, straws, and more
- c. Lots of amendments passed: Rodenticide (#3), Municipal reforestation (#6), climate bank study (#4) amendments passed to be engrossed
- d. State Forest advocates did not manage to change the initial EEA language about reserves. Administrative power for designation and de-designation

Where are we? Top priorities

- ~~X~~ [H.3400](#) / [S.2239](#) An Act Prohibiting The Use Of Ratepayer Funds For Utility Lobbying, Promotions Or Perks
 - a. House bill sent to study
 - b. In Senate Ways and Means after a favorable committee report

- ~~X~~ [H.3547](#) / [S.2290](#) An Act Preventing Gas Expansion To Protect Climate, Community Health And Safety
 - a. House bill sent to study
 - b. Senate Ways and Means

Where are we? Top priorities

- [H.952](#) An Act relative to watershed forest protection
 - a. Compilation redraft out of Environment committee that turned the forest bills into a study
- [H.4870](#) / [S.1504](#) An Act to protect Massachusetts public health from PFAS
 - a. House bill in second committee (Health Care Financing)
 - b. In Senate Ways and Means
- [S.2099](#) An act to provide sunlight to state government
 - a. In Senate Ways and Means

Other bills!

H.954: An Act Empowering Vulnerable Municipalities to Protect Residents and The Environment from Harmful Pesticides

- In House W&M

H.965: An Act restricting the use of rodenticides in the environment

- Amendment #3 in the Senate Bond Bill
- New draft: H.5217

H.2394: An Act to restrict the use of polystyrene

- Amendment 84 of the Senate Bond Bill: studying the feasibility of the bill

H.3494: An act to improve outdoor lighting, conserve energy, and increase dark-sky visibility

- Reported favorably out of committee, referred to W&M
- Amendment 9 of bond bill proposed by Creem: Withdrawn

H.5076, H.4700, H.995, H.4191: Home Rule Petition, pesticide reduction in Eastham, Truro, Orleans, Wellfleet

- Sent to study

H.4172: Rodenticide ben in Provincetown

- Rolled into H.5217



Thank you

Reach out with questions:
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