

BLUEWAVE



The Green Engineer
Sustainable Design Consulting



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Massachusetts State House
24 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02133

July 20, 2020

Dear Honorable Members of the Massachusetts General Court:

As B Corps with significant operations in Massachusetts we write to encourage the General Court to advance legislation this year to confront the challenges of climate change. The [B Corp Climate Collective](#) works to create an inclusive, equitable, and regenerative economic system for all people and the planet. Which is why the [IPCC 1.5 °C report](#) and the [2018 National Climate Assessment](#) caused us such alarm. In order to avoid the most catastrophic climate impacts it is imperative the government on every level confront this crisis. With that understanding, we urge you to take bold action to strengthen the Commonwealth's Global Warming Solutions Act by increasing our required emission reductions to net-zero by 2050 and adopting interim targets to ensure we meet that goal - as would be accomplished by S.2500 - An Act Setting Next Generation Climate Policy or H.3983 - An Act to Create a 2050 Roadmap to a Clean and Thriving Commonwealth.

B Corps commit to taking bold and urgent action on climate, using advocacy, collaboration, and corporate action to stop emissions, draw down carbon, and build just and inclusive companies and communities. As part of that mission over 700 B Corps have already [committed to achieving net-zero emissions](#) by 2030. While clean energy helps businesses and institutions cut energy costs, reduce exposure to volatile fossil fuel prices, and stay competitive - public policy is still needed to make these goals achievable.

Codifying net-zero goals with legislation will ensure that Massachusetts continues to drive down emissions and the co-pollutants which disproportionately burden communities of color. The increased mortality rate from COVID-19 within communities of color--most recently illustrated in Harvard's [study on long-term exposure to air pollution and COVID-19 mortality](#)--highlights the urgent need to act in order to protect our most vulnerable residents. In addition to adopting net-zero goals we strongly

encourage the General Court to advance [H.4264](#) An Act relative to environmental justice in the commonwealth, to directly address the burdens of our Environmental Justice communities.

The GWSA, which set mandatory targets to reduce emissions 25% below 1990 levels by 2020 and 80% below 1990 levels by 2050, is an essential framework for the Commonwealth. However, the IPCC report now shows that those goals are insufficient to meet the challenges ahead; this important law should be strengthened to set a target of net zero emissions by 2050, should include clear and robust interim targets, and should include a requirement that a roadmap be developed and regularly updated to ensure we are on track to meet our emissions reduction targets. The policies to help us get to the interim and 2050 targets will need to be sufficiently ambitious; they may include carbon pricing, stronger renewable energy standards, investments in energy storage, additional large-scale clean energy procurements, and a transformation of our transportation system.

With little time left in this year's legislative session, it is essential that you advance these policies with the time remaining. A delay will only increase the costs of the necessary transition and add uncertainty as we seek to stimulate the economy and protect our residents. We hope you will join us in taking the robust action which matches the urgency of our challenges. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Blue Wave Solar
Dean's Beans Organic Coffee Company
The Green Engineer, Inc.
Habitus Incorporated
ReVision
PowerDash
Preserve
TripZero

For additional information or to contact the signatories please contact Justin Wright jwright@habitusincorporated.com