

CLIMATE & CLEAN ENERGY

2022 Bill Priorities - Virginia Conservation Network

DEFENDING OUR CLEAN ENERGY PROGRESS

Virginia has made progress in addressing climate change through legislation that reduces greenhouse gas emissions, provides funding for critical infrastructure projects, and provides job and economic opportunities across the Commonwealth. The General Assembly needs to oppose a series of bills that rollback or undermine the key climate policy we have passed in the last few years, including the Virginia Clean Economy Act, Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, and Clean Cars Standard.

OPPOSE:

HB73 Electric utilities; definitions, aggregate capacity requirements for renewable energy facilities.

HB74 Va. Clean Economy Act; non-bypassable charges, energy-intensive trade-exposed (EITE) industries

HB118 Electric utilities; regulation, development of renewable energy facilities.

HB172 Solar projects and energy storage projects; siting agreements with host localities.

HB656 Income tax, state and corporate; creates tax credit for coal refuge energy and reclamation, report.

HB657 & SB120 Public utilities; waste coal and certain coal-fired electric generating units.

HB892 & SB398 Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI); pre existing contracts.

HB894 Electricity and energy development; generation in the Commonwealth.

HB1257 Natural gas utilities; retail supply choice.

HB1301 & SB532 Clean Energy and Community Flood Preparedness Act; repeals Act.

HB1326 Electric utilities; removal of waste coal from previously mined sites.



BRINGING MORE SOLAR TO OUR COMMUNITIES

Small-scale energy resources, especially when paired with storage, are a necessary complement to larger resources. They improve grid reliability, reduce pressure on agriculture and forest land, and provide more jobs per megawatt compared to larger resources. Virginia must remove barriers to customer-owned clean energy, strengthen the renewable portfolio standard, and promote solar-plus-storage solutions for electricity resilience.

SUPPORT:

HB471 & SB290 State agencies and localities; solar-ready roof requirements, etc.

BANNING UTILITY CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

These bills would prohibit public utility monopolies in Virginia from contributing to the political campaigns and committees of the government officials who are tasked with regulating them. Because monopolies have a captive consumer base, Virginians have no choice but to subsidize the political spending of their utility provider every time they pay their monthly bills - even if they strongly disagree with their political actions.

SUPPORT:

HB71, SB45, SB568 Campaign finance; prohibited contributions to candidates

ENSURING ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Access to energy and water utilities is essential for the health and wellbeing of all Americans. And yet, thousands of households in Virginia face utility disconnections every year. The General Assembly must address inequalities baked into our current system by improving protections for households from gas and electricity disconnections.

SUPPORT:

HB664 Public utilities; delay of termination of service, serious medical condition, report.
HB1054 Disaster or emergency; weather extremes; disconnection prohibitions for certain utilities.



CONTACT INFORMATION



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Learn more about the
conservation community's
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vcnva.org/our-common-agenda