



Dear Chairman Downing and Chairman Golden,

The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts urges the Telecommunications, Utility and Energy (TUE) Committee to report a carbon pricing bill out of Committee so it can be acted on in this legislative session. The LWVMA has submitted testimony in support of S.1747, and would also give strong consideration to support for S.1786.

A growing number of economists, scientists, and political leaders agree that carbon pricing is the surest and simplest immediate tool for significantly reducing carbon dioxide emissions while supporting the transition to clean, renewable energy sources and a clean energy economy.

The League has supported carbon pricing as an effective tool for addressing the urgent threat of climate change since 2009. We also support carbon pricing because it will keep energy dollars within the state and country, reduce carbon emissions, and encourage households and businesses to become more energy efficient. The relatively low cost of carbon-based fuels encourages their use and stymies conservation and investment in clean, renewable energy development. Carbon pricing is based on a simple and straightforward premise: when things cost more, people buy less. S.1747 focuses on the demand side of the carbon equation by pricing carbon to reflect its true social cost - a cost that has been borne by, but hidden from, the public. For additional information on the League's position on carbon pricing and S. 1747, please see [our testimony](#) before your committee in October.

Massachusetts must remain a leader in addressing climate change and passing innovative policies. The issue of climate change becomes more urgent daily as the threat to our health, safety and economy continues to grow. We cannot wait until the next session of the legislature to take such a significant step in addressing climate change as carbon pricing legislation.

We urge you to report a carbon pricing bill out of Committee for action this session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jean Cherdack". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jean Cherdack
President

CC: Members of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
Senators Marc R. Pacheco, Anne M. Gobi, Daniel A. Wolf, Michael J. Rodrigues, and Ryan C. Fattman
Representatives Paul Brodeur, Thomas M. Petrolati, Tackey Chan, Josh S. Cutler, Claire D. Cronin, John C. Velis, Rady Mom, Daniel M. Donahue, Leonard Mirra, and Randy Hunt