



Legislation Summary:

An Act to promote a clean energy future

Initial bill number: [S.2303](#) (Bill numbers will change as legislation proceeds.)

Sponsor: Senate Committee on Global Warming and Climate Change

This bill is the omnibus energy bill crafted by the Senate Committee on Global Warming and Climate Change that encompasses provisions from the many energy-related bills filed this session. It was reported out to the Senate Ways and Means Committee in mid-February.

This is a lengthy and comprehensive bill. Among its many provisions are:

- Accelerates the renewable portfolio standard (RPS), the amount of fuel from renewable sources electric utilities must use, to 3% a year
- Allows new rules exceeding the standards of the Paris climate agreement
- Includes solar equity provisions, removes net metering caps and sets statewide targets for solar power
- Prevents utilities from passing the cost of pipelines to consumers
- Enacts Department of Public Utilities reform
- Sets binding 2030 and 2040 emissions limits targets
- Directs administration to put price on carbon or use market-based emissions reduction tool, can be multi-state.
- Codifies definition of environmental justice
- Addresses electric grid modernization
- Addresses additional energy storage capacity
- Addresses offshore wind energy development

LWVMA urges the legislature to pass a comprehensive and strong energy bill in this session.

League position: This bill is consistent with LWVUS positions on the environment and energy. From the 2016-2018 Impact on Issues, Natural Resources section: “In 2008 the League called on Congress to enact legislation to significantly cut the greenhouse gas emissions which cause global climate change and supported increased energy efficiency and a shift to a clean, renewable energy. The League called for a moratorium on the building of new coal-fired electric power plants and supported requirements for utilities to produce a significant percentage of electricity from renewable resources.”

