



January 5, 2021
Governor Charles Baker
24 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02133

Re: S.2995: An Act Creating a Next-Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy

Dear Governor Baker,

We are writing to thank you for your leadership advancing the critically important, regional Transportation and Climate Initiative Plan (TCI-P), the 2050 Decarbonization Roadmap Report and associated 2030 Clean Energy and Climate Plan, efforts that signal clear expectations and goals for phased emissions reductions and specific actions to achieve them, efficiently and fairly, while protecting health and creating jobs, benefitting us all.

We are also writing to express our strong support for S.2995: An Act Creating a Next-Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy and to urge you to sign the bill without delay. S.2995 represents several years of work on the part of the Legislature and is the important outcome of a collaborative, bi-partisan and bi-cameral effort to address the climate crisis.

In combination, TCI-P, the 2050 Roadmap, the 2030 Clean Energy and Climate Plan and S.2995, are mutually reinforcing and reset Massachusetts' status as a model and leader on climate policy in the nation. Importantly, S.2995 will codify major provisions central to the Administration's plans such as the goal of Net Zero carbon emissions by 2050, and defining environmental justice to better protect overburdened and environmentally vulnerable populations, further embedding key principles in policy decisions moving forward.

The League of Women Voters was founded in 1920 as a good government organization, dedicated to advancing policy on behalf of democratic principles of governance and the health, safety and welfare of the public. As such, the League supports the need to address climate change to protect the well-being of the public and the ecosystem that we all rely upon as a critical function and fundamental responsibility of good government. We have recent history as evidence that the cost of doing nothing will be far greater than the cost of meaningful action, and that policies to reduce deadly pollution through transition to clean, safe, renewable energy will boost the economy in terms of lowering health costs and growth in the renewable energy industry and associated jobs.

We are in a climate emergency. The need to address climate change is more urgent with each passing day. What we do in the next 10 years is crucial to our success, and policy grounded in science and data is the tool that can achieve the scale, scope and speed of change required to tamp down climate disruption.

The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts, representing 47 local Leagues from Cape Cod to the Berkshires, thanks you for your work to address climate change, and urges your full support of S.2995 as a powerful tool for achieving the state's climate goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith Zaunbrecher".

Judith Zaunbrecher
Co-President

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth L. Foster-Nolan".

Elizabeth Foster-Nolan
Co-President