



## **Legislation Summary:**

### **An Act achieving a green future with infrastructure and workforce investments**

Bill number(s): [H.3292](#) (Bill numbers will change as legislation proceeds.)

Sponsors: Rep. William J. Driscoll

#### **Purpose of the bill:**

This bill is intended to ensure sustainable, equitable funding to meet the Commonwealth's Climate Goals, affirmed by the Legislature and the Governor in 2020, to achieve Net Zero Emissions by 2050.

#### **LWVUS position that allows support of this bill:**

##### **2020-2022 Impact on Issues**

##### **Climate Change, p. 107**

"The League's Position Statement of Position on Climate Change Policy, as announced by the National Board, January 2019: The League believes that climate change is a serious threat facing our nation and our planet. The League believes that an interrelated approach to combating climate change—including through energy conservation, air pollution controls, building resilience, and promotion of renewable resources— is necessary to protect public health and defend the overall integrity of the global ecosystem."

##### **League Position on market-based mechanisms to put a price on carbon pollution, adopted 2018, Impact on Issues, p.87:**

"The League position is that each state or region will have different issues, different constituencies, and different challenges, so the path to reach a solution for pricing carbon can be very different for each. The position on carbon pricing of the League of Women Voters was approved at the 2018 national convention and is stated below.

***The League of Women Voters stands united with and in support of efforts to price carbon emissions, whether cap and trade, carbon tax/fee, or another viable pricing mechanism. The LWV does not have a position on how the revenue generated is to be used. We do not espouse any single method of pricing carbon over another. We will evaluate all proposed methods based on their effectiveness to abate emissions and whether the method can be successfully implemented.***



#### **Brief description of what the bill does.**

- Eliminates polluter fee loophole for out of state importers by establishing a decreasing cap over time on allowable fossil fuel emissions similar to the carbon fee imposed by the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative for electricity generation. Emissions targets in the bill aim at reduction from current 87% to 7% by 2025. Fees expected to raise \$500-\$750 million/year;
- Establishes a “21st Century Green Bonding Program” of \$500 million as part of annual capital budget process to maintain green future investment funding over time;
- Creates an estimated 80,000 local, well-paying jobs in MA by 2030;
- Injects an estimated \$4.5 billion to benefit environmental justice communities across the state and support new models for community governance;
- Would save an estimated 7,600 lives a year by reducing air pollution.

#### **Revenue generated would be invested to establish/provide:**

- Funding for state-wide green infrastructure to support electrifying transportation, increasing renewable energy, consumer heating efficiency rebates;
- Local aid to cities and towns to fund critical local green infrastructure and adaptation projects;
- A Green Workforce Commission to develop a 21st century clean energy/green workforce with \$10 million set-aside for displaced fossil fuel workers;
- Dividends for vulnerable households to off-set cost increases during the transition to a green economy by quintile with those in lowest two quintiles receiving dividends to fully offset any increases due to fees.

#### **[Fact Sheet](#) (courtesy of Green Future Now)**

Please note that the Fact Sheet has an earlier bill docket number (HD.1972). The current bill number is H.3292.

#### **[Slide Deck from the Green Future Act Legislative Briefing](#)**

#### **[An Analysis of the Job Creation and Community Benefits of the Green Future Act](#) (courtesy of Climate XChange)**