



July 16, 2020

Re: Decker/Garballey 100% Renewable Energy Act (H.2836)

Dear Chair Golden, Chair Barrett, and members of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy,

As environmental and civic organizations working in communities on Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket, we ask you to report favorably on the 100% Renewable Energy Act (H.2836), filed by Representative Marjorie Decker and Representative Sean Garballey.

Our region is seeing the impacts of our dependence on fossil fuels first-hand. Rising sea levels, extreme storms, and erosion are harming the beaches and wetlands we love and threatening our ability to live and thrive in our coastal communities. Air pollution from the burning of fossil fuels for electricity, heating, and transportation is harming our health, contributing to asthma, cardiovascular disease, and other health problems. As a region at the end of the "energy pipeline," we often pay higher rates, and our supply of energy could be interrupted in the event of a natural disaster or other emergency.

Fortunately, the Cape and Islands are leading the way on clean energy solutions. Across our region, municipalities, businesses, institutions, and individuals are taking bold action to reduce their energy consumption, generate clean electricity from the sun, and shift heating and transportation away from fossil fuels. Our clean energy progress will accelerate in the coming years as Massachusetts begins to tap into its tremendous offshore wind resources.

The Cape and Islands are showing that a rapid transition away from fossil fuels toward 100% clean, renewable energy is possible. But local action is not enough — we need policy change at the state level as well.

We are counting on you to put Massachusetts on a path to 100% renewable energy. Please give a favorable report to the Decker/Garballey 100% Renewable Energy Act, including a commitment to 100% renewable electricity by 2035 and 100% renewable energy for heating and transportation by 2045.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard Delaney".

Richard Delaney, President
The Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative