

Our Mission

We're working to rapidly reduce climate pollution at scale, starting in California.

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April 20, 2023

The Honorable Cecilia M. Aguiar-Curry
California State Assembly Local Government Committee
1020 N Street, Room 157
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 1176 – Local Electrification Planning – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Aguiar-Curry:

The Climate Center writes in support of Assembly Bill 1176, which will ensure that city and county governments across the state are prepared for California's transition to zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) and buildings by incorporating electrification considerations into the general planning process.

The Climate Center, founded in 2001, is focused on equitably reducing climate pollution, starting in California, at the speed and scale necessary to secure a climate-safe future. We catalyze change through an ambitious and achievable vision, developing science-based research to drive policy, and mobilizing a powerful coalition of climate advocates across sectors.

Assembly Bill 1176 acknowledges the leadership that some of our cities and counties are already undertaking in their planning processes and provides the flexibility to recognize their existing efforts, while also providing guidance and a clear path forward to ensure no municipality falls behind.

The transportation and built environment sectors are the primary areas that California's greenhouse gas reduction goals focus on, as they make up most of our emissions. AB 1176 critically focuses on the intersection of these two

sectors and the infrastructure that will be necessary in order to make meaningful progress towards both.

AB 1176 will require pivotal early coordination with load-serving entities or utility providers in order to identify and meet the need for grid infrastructure upgrades. As the transition to ZEVs and all-electric appliances continues to accelerate with the development and increasing access to new technologies, cities and counties will not be able to keep up and support this growing facet of municipal life without robust planning to ensure the sufficient distribution of charging and electric-ready infrastructure.

It is for these reasons The Climate Center strongly SUPPORTS AB 1176 (Chavez Zbur), which will require city and county governments to incorporate electrification considerations into their general planning process and serve as a tool for intentional development aligned with California's climate change, public health, housing, and equity goals.

Sincerely,

Ellie Cohen, Chief Executive Officer
The Climate Center