



Our Mission

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

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Senator Caballero
Chair, Senate Appropriations
1021 O Street, Suite 7620
Sacramento, CA 95814

May 16th, 2025

RE: SB 57 (Padilla) – The Climate Center – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Caballero,

I am writing on behalf of The Climate Center and its thousands of supporters statewide to express support for SB 57 (Padilla), which would mandate the CA Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to create a special tariff designed to shield residential ratepayers from transmission costs associated with powering eligible customers who are connecting transmission-level service of at least 50 kilovolts and with an estimated demand of at least 50 megawatts, while still supporting the state's climate goals.

The Climate Center is a nonprofit climate and energy policy think tank, do tank, working collaboratively for accelerated, equity-centered, labor-friendly climate policy in California. We know that as goes California, so goes the world. With the climate crisis rapidly worsening, we engage in cross-sector coalitions to enact bold, science-based policy that sparks innovation and channels market forces for speed and scale greenhouse gas reductions to benefit everyone.

Today, electricity costs are rising at unsustainable rates, burdening Californians. SB 57 will guarantee that the costs of grid investments required to support very large energy consumers, including data centers, are fully recovered from those large energy consumers rather than being unfairly passed on to ratepayers. By implementing this tariff, the bill aims to keep electricity costs from dramatically rising without increasing the state's dependence on fossil fuels.

To meet the state's current climate goals, we must reduce our dependence on dirty fossil fuels. SB 57 asks the CPUC to ensure that these large energy customers site distributed energy storage and backup power systems that help California meet our emission reduction goals. The bill also asks the CPUC to look at establishing minimum requirements for zero-carbon procurement.

Forecasts tell us that large energy customers will need a significant amount of site specific new energy supply in the coming years. SB 57 strikes the right balance between serving the growing market, protecting ratepayers from unfair costs, and supporting California's climate and clean energy goals. For these reasons, The Climate Center strongly supports SB 57.

We strongly urge your AYE vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ECohen', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Ellie Cohen, CEO
The Climate Center