

Hello my name is Tica Drury. As a young person, I am terrified of the imminent climate catastrophe. The infamous IPCC report states that we have 12 years to act on climate change before it is too late. 12 years to wean ourselves off of fossil fuel. 12 years before irreversible feedback loops kick in, propelling us into what scientists have dubbed “hothouse earth.” In Vermont “hothouse earth” will look like snowless winters, increased flooding, higher rates of Lyme disease, repeats of super storms like Sandy and Irene. It will look like the loss of billions of dollars, the loss of livelihoods and the loss of life in Vermont as we know it.

While the changes seem gradual, climate change is already affecting Vermonters. As informed and educated state representatives it is your job to recognize these trends and pass laws that protect your constituents from the imminent climate catastrophe. The passing of these three bills help to set a precedent and show that Vermont is committed to combating climate change and making space for sustainable energy alternatives.

All of these people came here today to urge you to pass these bills because we all different things that we’d lose to these pipelines and to climate change in general. In 12 years I will be 31 years old - the age that I would normally plan on having kids. However the threat of climate change has taken this away from me. If we keep going about business as usual, the climate catastrophe *will* continue to unfold rendering it immoral and unethical to bring children into the world.

So for your own children and grandchildren, for youth all over Vermont, and for me I ask you to stand on the *right* side of history and to *please* support H51, H175, and H214. Thank you.

