



Dear Members of the House Committee on Energy and Digital Infrastructure,

My name is Ross Connolly, and I serve as the Regional State Director for Americans for Prosperity. I am here today to strongly support H.62, which repeals the Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA) and the Vermont Climate Council while transitioning Vermont's climate policies from rigid mandates to flexible, achievable goals.

The Global Warming Solutions Act has failed Vermonters. It places unrealistic, legally binding emissions reduction mandates on our state without considering the economic consequences for families, businesses, and communities. Worse yet, it allows Vermont to be sued if these unattainable mandates are not met, subjecting taxpayers to costly litigation and forcing policymakers to prioritize compliance over common sense. Repealing this law is necessary to restore accountability and ensure that Vermont's climate policies work for—not against—its people.

H.62 ensures a balanced approach to climate policy by shifting our state's focus from inflexible mandates to practical, long-term goals. By replacing "requirements" with "goals" in 10 V.S.A. § 578, Vermont can continue pursuing emissions reduction strategies without forcing costly, one-size-fits-all solutions and passing costs onto businesses and consumers.

Moreover, this bill reorients Vermont's energy policy by amending 30 V.S.A. § 202a and § 202b, ensuring that the state's energy goals are in line with economic realities and technological advancements, rather than being dictated by mandates. H.62 does not signify a retreat from climate action in Vermont; it signifies a more practical, cost-effective, and adaptable approach for residents to reduce emissions and promote environmental stewardship without harming Vermont's economy, driving up energy costs, or exposing taxpayers to unnecessary lawsuits.

The Global Warming Solutions Act has set Vermont on an unsustainable trajectory. H.62 is the necessary course correction, prioritizing innovation over regulation, flexibility over rigidity, and affordability over costly mandates. It's time to steer Vermont's climate policy in a direction that truly benefits its people.

For these reasons, we strongly urge you to support and favorably recommend a yes vote on H.62. Vermont deserves a climate policy that works for everyone—not just bureaucrats and special interests.

Ross Connolly
Regional State Director for the Northeast
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