



TESTIMONY **IN SUPPORT** OF
SB 1083 An Act Establishing A Transportation Carbon Budget For The State
March 11, 2023

To: Honored Chair Sen. Cohen, Co-Chair Rep. Lemar, Vice Chairs Sen. Lopes and Rep. Berger-Girvalo, Ranking Members Sen. Hwang and Rep. Kennedy, Distinguished Members of the Transportation Committee

From: Lori Brown, Executive Director, CT League of Conservation Voters

On behalf of CTLCV, thank you for the opportunity to comment **in support of SB 1083** that would establish a maximum limit on emissions permitted from the transportation sector in the state.

This legislation **will provide a new tool** and a mandate for our state transportation agency to fight climate change. Passage of this bill will benefit our entire state and region.

In Connecticut, the transportation sector accounts for at least 37% of our total greenhouse gas emissions. This presents a major challenge and **opportunity within the sector to enact a plan to meet our emissions reduction targets set by the Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA)**. Separate legislation (SB 1145) is pending to update the GWSA with sector specific targets. Establishing a Carbon Budget would align with this effort and provide important planning information in the transportation sector.

Adopting a transportation carbon budget for the state is a tangible step towards reaching our emissions reduction targets, encouraging all future planning and projects to be designed with reduction in mind. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions is essential for numerous public health and environmental benefits, reaching far into the future.

This legislation builds on the important steps made by the CT legislature in 2022 to protect our climate. The generality of a carbon budget will help guide sector-wide emissions reductions while avoiding a narrow focus on a particular technology or solution.

CTLCV appreciates the strong leadership of this committee for recognizing the intersections of climate and the environment within the transportation sector. Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

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