

TESTIMONY IN **SUPPORT** OF **SB 177**AN ACT CONCERNING ENERGY CONSUMPTION DATA AND LABELING

February 25, 2020

To: Honored Chairs Sen. Needleman and Rep. Arconti and Distinguished Members of the Energy & Technology Committee

From: Lori Brown, Connecticut League of Conservation Voters

On behalf of the Connecticut League of Conservation Voters (CTLCV), thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **IN SUPPORT of SB 177** to ensure proper disclosure of energy costs.

At the Connecticut League of Conservation Voters, we are deeply committed to equitable energy options through our "Clean Energy For All" campaign, which garnered support from thousands of residents and over one hundred lawmakers in 2018. SB 177 ensures that everyone, no matter their income level, can choose an apartment where they won't spend a majority of their income on the utility bill.

SB 177 would require that residential property owners disclose their energy costs upon request or publish an energy score in the rental/sale listing. This would be an effective step to ensure that Connecticut residents are not overburdened by unpredictable energy costs and are able to afford the places they call home.

In 2018, the Energy Information Administration found that 31% of U.S. households have trouble paying their energy bills. In Connecticut, 320,000 households have trouble paying these bills. SB 177 allows for more transparency for Connecticut residents when buying or renting a home to better plan for their energy expenses in advance.

We at CTLCV urge the committee to **SUPPORT SB 177** to help avoid the burden of an over-the-top energy bill. Thank you for your consideration as you deliberate on this bill.

Sincerely,

Lori Brown
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