



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF **HB 5828**  
AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GREEN JOBS CAREER LADDER

February 6, 2019

**To:** Honorable Chairs Sen. Haskell and Rep. Haddad and Distinguished Members of the Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement

**From:** Lori Brown, Connecticut League of Conservation Voters

Thank you for the opportunity to testify **IN SUPPORT of HB 5828**, An Act Establishing a Green Jobs Career Ladder.

Connecticut's clean energy sector is ready to boom. According to a 2017 report authored by the National Association of State Energy Officials, **the renewable energy industry in Connecticut already employs more workers than the fossil fuel industry** despite its significantly lower penetration in the market. As utilities conform to the Connecticut Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)—which mandates that 40% of energy produced by 2030 comes from renewable sources—job growth in this sector is expected to grow exponentially.

As the renewable energy sector grows, it is imperative that Connecticut encourage and prepare young people to enter into the industry. **The Green Jobs Career Ladder demonstrates, in a clear manner, what positions and salaries workers can expect to attain based on their education level.** This tool will allow students—as well as other residents and workers interested in clean energy jobs—to more effectively plan for their careers in the rapidly developing clean energy sector.

**Prospective workers will be attracted by the good wages and significant opportunity for career advancement that the clean energy sector offers.** Private sector, renewable energy companies will also benefit from the implementation of this policy, as their job offerings will be centralized and easy to find.

**The Green Jobs Career Ladder will increase the penetration of renewable energies in the Connecticut energy mix.** Increased use of renewables will dramatically lower energy costs for consumers and businesses, reduce air pollution and associated public health problems, and factor heavily into meeting Connecticut's emissions targets.

**The Green Jobs Career Ladder is a simple policy mechanism which will have an outside impact.** On behalf of the CT League of Conservation Voters, I urge you to **VOTE YES ON HB 5828.**

Thank you for considering this testimony as you deliberate HB 5828.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori Brown".

Lori Brown

Executive Director

CTLCV

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