



## Reduce Carbon Pollution and Strengthen Maine's Economy

Enact a comprehensive strategy to tackle climate change.

***A clear road map for curbing harmful pollution will create jobs and protect the health of Maine's people and our environment for future generations.***

Mainers know we need to do something about climate change —we can see the impacts everyday, from disappearing beaches to lakes that no longer ice over. At the same time, low-carbon solutions offer major opportunities for our state. Maine needs a long-term, cohesive framework for reducing carbon pollution.

### **Reducing carbon pollution presents opportunities to grow Maine's economy, including by using our natural resources.**

- A strong climate plan will decrease our reliance on fossil fuel imports to generate electricity. It will create new jobs in Maine in energy efficiency, battery storage, and renewable energy, including solar.
- A plan will spur innovation in transportation electrification technologies.
- It will benefit Maine's forestry industries by implementing strategies such as increased reliance on wood as a building material.
- An updated plan will benefit our farmers and landowners by encouraging them to manage their lands to maximize carbon sequestration.



### **Action on climate change is necessary to protect Mainers' health and way of life.**

- The Gulf of Maine's increasingly warm and acidic waters are becoming inhospitable to species that we have long relied upon, including Atlantic cod and the iconic American lobster. This is bad for Maine's fishermen as well as tourist businesses like whale-watching, guided fishing, and seafood-consumption.
- Rising temperatures and more frequent and intense rains, pests, droughts, and heat waves threaten our traditional crops and the livelihood of Maine's farmers.
- Milder winters threaten skiing and other snow sport businesses, while ticks harm the moose population that attracts sportsmen and sightseers to the state.
- Along with increased rainfall and more severe storms, higher ocean waters cause more coastal erosion, stronger storm surges, and more flooding that threatens to make many Maine communities uninhabitable.
- We can already see the adverse health impacts of climate change, including more mosquitos, ticks, and insect-borne diseases like Lyme that we never used to worry about. There's more pollen, longer allergy seasons, and increased smog, leading to costly health impacts and even premature deaths.
- These health, business, and property loss impacts disproportionately affect the most vulnerable among us including children, the elderly, and those in rural and financially disadvantaged communities.

### **This bill will:**

- Direct DEP to develop economic pathways for achieving Maine's updated, science-based emission levels, and will modernize the existing Climate Action Plan, putting Maine on track to prosper.

## **Support An Act To Limit Greenhouse Gas Pollution and Effectively Use Maine's Natural Resources**

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## Maine's Environmental Priorities Coalition

is a partnership of 34 environmental, conservation and public health organizations representing over 100,000 members who want to protect the good health, good jobs and quality of life that our environment provides.

***We are counting on Maine policymakers to take the important steps needed to make wise use of Maine's extraordinary environment so Maine people and Maine communities can thrive.***

Acadia Center	Maine People's Alliance
Appalachian Mountain Club	Maine Public Health Association
Atlantic Salmon Federation	Maine Rivers
Bicycle Coalition of Maine	Maine Wilderness Guides Organization
Conservation Law Foundation	Midcoast Conservancy
Environmental Health Strategy Center	Natural Resources Council of Maine
Environment Maine	Physicians for Social Responsibility, Maine Chapter
Friends of Casco Bay	RESTORE: The North Woods
Islesboro Island Trust	Sierra Club, Maine Chapter
Maine Association of Conservation Commissions	Southern Maine Conservation Collaborative
Maine Audubon	The Ocean Conservancy
Maine Center for Economic Policy	The Trust for Public Land
Maine Conservation Alliance	The Wilderness Society
Maine Council of Churches	Toxics Action Center
Maine Council of Trout Unlimited	Upstream
Maine Interfaith Power & Light	350 Maine
Maine Lakes Society	
Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association	