

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 31, 2018

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CFE/Save the Sound 2018 Connecticut legislative agenda focuses on Climate, Long Island Sound, and Water Protections

In wake of tumultuous climate rollbacks, efforts will focus on rebuilding and expanding good climate policy

NEW HAVEN, CONN. – During the 2018 Connecticut legislative session beginning February 7, Connecticut Fund for the Environment/Save the Sound will focus on climate, clean water, and coastal resiliency policy.

Climate

To reduce dependence on fossil fuels, lower air pollution emissions, promote clean energy jobs, and drive economic development, CFE/Save the Sound will be working to:

- Expand and extend the **Renewable Portfolio Standard** to require electric providers to purchase 50 percent of their power from clean energy sources, such as solar and wind, by 2030.
- Enact the <u>interim target</u> for the **Global Warming Solutions Act** to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45 percent by 2030, as recently recommended by the Governor's Council on Climate Change.
- Remove the cap on **shared solar** and implement a <u>program</u> that will benefit residents who can't currently put solar panels at their home or apartment, urban centers, and under-served residents, as well as create jobs and lower energy bills.
- Continue supporting policies to make it easier for consumers to purchase, afford, and charge **electric vehicles** in Connecticut.
- Fix last session's one-sided **ratepayer impact statement** that ignores the benefits of renewable energy and efficiency proposals in new legislation.
- Protect and build up **programs that reduce emissions, save money for families, and generate jobs** in the growing clean energy and energy efficiency industries.

Long Island Sound Protection

- Improve accountability and protect public health by strengthening Connecticut's **Sewage Right to Know Act** to include electronic reporting and public notice of sewage releases.
- Protect **Clean Water Fund** authorizations that help municipalities upgrade their infrastructure and keep sewage and excess nitrogen out of Long Island Sound.
- Advance Long Island Sound Coastal Resiliency projects and advance policies that are under development to protect our coastline and shoreline communities.

Drinking Water and Watershed Lands

- Ensure a comprehensive **State Water Plan** that includes <u>strong public trust policies</u> is approved by the legislature.
- Continue to defend the public drinking water supply by making sure **Class I and II watershed lands** remain protected.

Defending Laws

- Remain vigilant against **attempts to weaken environmental protections** that safeguard public health and our shared natural resources.
- Work to **fix detrimental environmental rollbacks**—like the newly minted 90-day automatic approval process—that threatens public health and safety, wildlife, and the environment.

Contact us:

Please feel free to reach out at any time about these and other environmental issues. We'll be happy to connect you with CFE/Save the Sound leadership, program leads, and attorneys who can speak in detail for background or on the record.

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