

New Hampshire Legislation – 2021 session

Legislation to oppose

House Bill 213 – Reduces every class of clean energy production that is part of the current RPS. The RPS goal for New Hampshire would be reduced from 25% to 8% by 2025. Lead sponsor is Rep. Michael Harrington.

Reducing the state's currently low RPS goals even further will continue to put new Hampshire at an environmental and economic disadvantage compared to other New England states in developing renewable energy sources.

House Bill 315 – Revisits the previously approved Community Power (municipal aggregation) “bulk purchasing” rules.

Eversource is pushing for this legislation that would gut the Community Power Law. This bill would entirely undermine the potential for Community Power to transform our state energy system by giving our cities and towns the local control to save on energy costs, increase resilience, and generate more renewable energy.

House Bill 351 – Changes the authority to increase the Systems Benefit Charge (SBC) from the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to the legislature.

House Bill 549 – Suspends the implementation of the Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (EERS) and reduces the Systems Benefit Charge (SBC) for utilities. The SBC helps to fund energy efficiency programs delivered by utilities.

Both House Bill 351 and House Bill 549 undermine current energy efficiency programs.

Legislation to support

Senate Bill 71 – Establishes a Commission to develop emissions reduction goals for the State of New Hampshire. Lead sponsors are Sen. Tom Sherman and Sen. Jeb Bradley.

The commission established by this bill would work to develop emissions reduction legislation for the 2022 session.

House Bill 172 – Establishes Greenhouse Gas Emissions Goals for the state and establishing a climate action plan. Lead sponsor is Rep. Joyce Weston.

This bill would establish GHG emissions goals and a climate action plan that reflect what other New England states have done.

House Bill 106 – Authorizes political subdivisions (city, town, county, school district) to establish larger clean energy projects via net metering. Low-income solar projects are included. Lead Sponsor is Rep. Tim Lang.

This bill would support the development of larger net metering projects beyond the current 1 MW cap. House version.

Senate Bill 109 - Net Metering for Political Subdivisions – Establishes an exemption for group net metered facilities that generate electricity consisting of a political subdivision. Lead sponsor is Sen. Kevin Avar.

This bill would support the development of larger net metering projects beyond the current 1 MW cap. Senate version.

Clean Energy Procurement (no bill number yet) – Requires New Hampshire to procure up to 800 MW of renewable energy, including 600 MW of offshore wind with the remaining 200 MW for solar and small hydro facilities. Lead sponsors are Sen. David Watters and Sen. Jeb Bradley.

Directs New Hampshire to develop procurement contracts to support the development of renewable energy sources. Other New England and northeastern states are aggressively pursuing this strategy for both economic development and climate change action.