

Joint Comments of
the Cities of Nashua, XXX, XXX, and the Town of Hanover
in support of SB 286,
An Act Relative to Aggregation of Electric Customers by Municipalities and Counties

The Honorable Martha Fuller Clark, Chair
Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee
State House Room XXX
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Senator Fuller Clark and Honorable Committee Members:

As municipalities working to enhance our environmental and economic sustainability, and to advance meaningful action on climate change, we strongly support SB 286.

Using the purchasing power of aggregated demand, municipalities in other states are simultaneously saving their residents money and advancing local clean energy goals. In New Hampshire, however, our law currently allows municipal aggregation to occur only on an “opt-in” basis, greatly undermining the power of municipal aggregation and the benefits it could otherwise provide.

By enabling municipalities to proceed on an “opt-out” basis (by majority vote of governing and legislative bodies), SB 286 would unleash the true power of municipal aggregation, enabling more ratepayers to benefit from lower electricity rates, and allowing communities to make significant progress in advancing clean energy.

It is essential that New Hampshire municipalities be provided the tools necessary to advance the economic and environmental sustainability of their communities. Municipal aggregation, with an “opt-out” option for municipalities, is such a tool. We urge you to vote in support of this important legislation.

Respectfully,

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