



HAMMOND CLIMATE SOLUTIONS FOUNDATION
Dynamic Action for a Sustainable Planet



SOLAR RIGHTS ALLIANCE



Coalition for Environmental Equity and Economics



The Environmental Justice Coalition for Water
Water Justice for All



BQUEST FOUNDATION



California Alliance for Community Energy



SDUSC

FUTURES unbound

INDIVISIBLE MARIN



BUSINESS FOR GOOD
San Diego

Indivisible California
GREEN TEAM



IDLE NO MORE VENICE



LOCAL CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE



SD-SEQUEL
San Diegans for Sustainable, Equitable & Quiet Equipment in Landscaping



The Climate Reality Project

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY POLICY ACTION SQUAD



RECLAIM OUR POWER!
Utility Justice Campaign

350 BayArea



APEN
ASIAN PACIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK



VOTE SOLAR



Social Eco Education



North County
NCCCA
Climate Change Alliance

Clean Coalition



COLLECTIVE RESILIENCE



TH!RD ACT TH!RD ACT SF BAY AREA SOCIAL



SUBMITTED ON 8/29 AT 5:15PM PST

August 29, 2024

Governor Gavin Newsom
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Cottie Petrie-Norris
Chair, Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee
1020 N Street, Room 408A
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Oppose AB 3121 (Petrie-Norris) - Reject Cuts to CalSHAPE, SGIP, and SOMAH Programs

Dear Governor Newsom and Assemblymember Petrie-Norris,

We, the undersigned organizations representing a diverse coalition of environmental justice, clean energy advocates and consumer organizations, oppose Assembly Bill 3121 (AB 3121), which would gut critical programs that advance clean energy solutions, provide relief from skyrocketing energy costs for low-income renters and provide climate resilience for our most vulnerable communities.

It makes little sense to address California's exorbitant electricity bills by gutting the few programs we have that give working-class communities some degree of control over their skyrocketing energy costs. We understand the burden that Californians are facing paying the highest electricity bills in the nation and agree that it should be a priority to provide relief to families, however a one-time bill credit will do little to fix California's high energy costs, when the utilities are still allowed to overspend and collect profits without meaningful scrutiny. Put simply, any one-time bill reduction will be wiped out by the next, inevitable rate hike, and it doesn't increase clean energy production, which helps reduce the impacts of the climate crisis, which are felt first and worst by Communities of Concern.

Instead of cosmetic fixes on the backs of working people, we instead urge the legislature to focus on developing a comprehensive strategy to address California's energy affordability crisis, which includes holding investor-owned utilities accountable for their overspending and misuse of ratepayer funds. Making cuts to critical programs would set California back in this progress to meet aggressive climate and equity goals.

We are deeply concerned about cuts to the California Schools Healthy Air, Plumbing, and Efficiency (CalSHAPE), The Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) and the Solar on Multifamily Affordable Housing (SOMAH) programs, which not only provide affordability benefits to schools, renters and low-income communities, but also protect against extreme heat, contribute to economic development in underserved communities and provide reliability benefits to all Californians.

Simply put, there is no one-time bill credit that will fix California's energy affordability issue. There can be no ratepayer relief without holding utilities accountable for their out-of-control spending. We cannot afford to focus on short-term solutions and sacrifice programs that provide long-lasting benefits to our most vulnerable communities.

We urge state leaders to reject these proposed cuts and instead focus on creating a long-term strategy to address energy affordability and finally hold investor-owned utilities accountable for creating this problem.

Sincerely,

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Indivisible Ventura

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Co Leader
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Co founders
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