Floor Alert
Support SB 1020 (Laird) – Clean Energy, Jobs and Affordability Act of 2022

A coalition of environmental and consumer groups urges support for SB 1020 (Laird). This bill would establish new decarbonization commitments coupled with new mechanisms to protect consumers and provide affordable utility service.

We particularly support the following elements:

• Augmenting the existing SB 100 decarbonization policy by establishing interim statewide targets of 90% zero carbon electricity by 2035 and 95% by 2040. These interim targets would ensure significant progress over the next decade towards the existing goal of a completely decarbonized electricity grid by 2045.

• Requiring state agencies to obtain 100% of electricity used to serve their facilities from zero carbon resources by 2030. State agencies should be at the forefront of progress towards decarbonization and are fully capable of obtaining all their electricity from clean sources on an expedited basis.

• Establishing a Climate and Equity Trust fund to address rapidly rising electricity rates that threaten the affordability of basic service and undermine the economics of beneficial building and transportation electrification. Coupled with durable long-term funding sources, the Trust could be used to reduce the magnitude of costs currently collected in electricity rates for a range of decarbonization programs, wildfire mitigation, and other state policies. In particular, the Trust should place priority on lowering bills for low-income customers.

We strongly urge an AYE vote on SB 1020