

SUPPORT SB21-200

Reduce Greenhouse Gases Increase Environmental Justice

Sponsored by Senator Winter, Senator Moreno, Representative Jackson, and Representative Weissman

In January, Governor Polis released his Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Reduction Roadmap. SB XXX ensures the sector specific goals established in the Roadmap will be met by setting strong, enforceable rules to limit pollution from the electricity, oil and gas, transportation, and building sectors and creating the tools to engage and empower disproportionately impacted communities. Only by centering equity can Colorado truly get on a path to meet our science-based climate goals and address the legacy pollution experienced by Black, Indigenous, and communities of color.

How does SB21-200 benefit Colorado?

SB21-200 will benefit Colorado in three critical ways:

- **Meeting climate goals:** Despite ongoing efforts, we are not on track to meet our climate goals. In fact, we are at risk of increasing emissions in the coming years. SB21-200 works with the [Roadmap](#) to make sure we meet our commitments to Coloradans today and for generations to come.
- **Protecting public health:** Coloradans are all too familiar with the consequences of climate change and dirty air, both from recent wildfires and everyday pollution. Even before the pandemic, [air pollution led to almost 250,000 premature deaths a year in the U.S.](#) By powering our homes, businesses, cars, trucks, and more with clean energy from renewable sources such as solar and wind, we can help Coloradans breathe easy.
- **Looking to the future and building back better:** Nearly 60,000 Coloradans work in clean energy, and our state ranks in the top ten nationwide for jobs in wind, bioenergy, and overall renewable generation. By passing SB21-200 we can help get Coloradans back to work, support locally owned businesses, and lead the nation in the green technologies of the future.

How does SB21-200 work?

SB21-200 has four main components:

- **Setting clear deadlines for the Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC) to adopt regulations to meet each sector specific goal:** To ensure sources of greenhouse gas pollution do their part to reduce pollution and meet the Roadmap targets in upcoming AQCC rulemakings addressing, the electricity, oil and gas, transportation, and building sectors.
- **Ensuring electric providers file timely and meaningful emission reduction plans:** Clean electricity is the foundation to achieving deep decarbonization across the economy. Consistent with recent electric utility announcements, SB21-200 solidifies goals of at least 80% emissions reductions by 2030 and 100% emissions reductions by 2040, ensures emission reductions are only claimed once, and maximizes near term reductions.
- **Supporting more opportunities for community engagement and empowerment:** SB21-200 sets the stage for equitable climate action by supporting the hiring of environmental justice staff and requires processes that better engage disproportionately-impacted communities to help ensure climate policies work toward community benefits and restorative justice.
- **Creating additional funding by closing a loophole that currently lets polluters off the hook:** To provide the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) with the necessary resources to develop, implement, and enforce equitable regulations, the AQCC would begin requiring climate polluters to pay the same annual fees they currently pay for other types of harmful air pollutants.

Supporters of SB21-200



Gunnison Valley Climate Crisis Coalition
Sheep Mountain Alliance
Sustainable Action Consulting PBC
Protect Our Winters
Pueblo's Energy Future
Colorado Sierra Club
Defiende Nuestra Tierra
Mothers Out Front
CLEER Clean Energy Economy for the Region
Renewable Energy Owners Coalition of America (Pueblo)
Renewable Energy Owners Coalition of America
Southwest Energy Efficiency Project
Earthjustice
Pikes Peak Permaculture

Green Cities Coalition of the Pikes Peak Region
Pikes Peak Environmental Forum
Environmental Defense Fund
Mi Familia Vota
The Colorado Springs Pro-Housing Partnership
Western Leaders Network
Climate Reality Denver Metro Chapter
350 Colorado
The Episcopal Church in Colorado

Call to Action Colorado
Colorado Businesses for a Livable Climate
Together Colorado
Namaste Solar