





Honorable Chair Wicks, Assembly Appropriations
Capitol Office, 1021 O Street, Suite 8140
Sacramento, CA 95814

Honorable Vice Chair Sanchez, Assembly Appropriations
Capitol Office, 1021 O Street, Suite 4340
Sacramento, CA 95814

August 22nd, 2025

RE: Request for AYE vote on SB 787 (McNerney) – Energy: Equitable Clean Energy Supply Chains and Industrial Policy in California

Dear Chairs Wicks and Sanchez,

We, the undersigned organizations, write to respectfully request your support for SB 787 (McNerney), which marks a critical step in expanding high quality jobs and critical in-state supply chains while accelerating our progress on California's climate and energy affordability goals.

California leads the nation in innovative policies to decarbonize our energy system and economy. However the state lacks a comprehensive, all-of-government approach to building out clean energy supply chains for accelerated deployment of renewable energy, ensuring energy affordability for working class communities, and generating high quality union job growth.

SB 787 proposes the creation of a Senior Counselor on Industrial Policy and Clean Energy Development within the California Energy Commission and an MOU among state agencies to take California's climate and economic leadership to the next level by coordinating state investment, regulation, and industry planning to accelerate decarbonization, deliver affordable energy goods and services, and create a large base of middle class, union supply chain and installation jobs. SB 787 proposes to focus attention on three strategic clean economy industries for supply chain growth: vehicle, home, and grid storage batteries; building decarbonization and heat pumps; and offshore wind.

California recognizes that batteries, heat pumps, and offshore wind are critical clean energy technologies. Yet the battery, heat pump, and offshore wind industries face similar problems:

- Current business models will not achieve deployment rates at pace with climate goals.^{1, 2}
- Current business models do not capitalize on massive in-state demand to deliver high quality, union supply chain jobs at scale.^{3, 4}
- There is no comprehensive strategy to bring down costs to consumers, especially low-income Californians, in these industries.

Underlying these challenges, California's state agencies do not currently systematically integrate planning, investment, regulatory, and research capacities for these industries. There is no coordinated plan or strategy among agencies to affordably decarbonize at scale and deliver union supply chain jobs.

California's outsized demand for millions of heat pumps, dozens of gigawatts of offshore wind, and millions of batteries can be a boon to in-state manufacturing, economic development, and union employment. Creative approaches to structuring markets in these industries can reduce costs to ratepayers and to low income Californians, ensure environmental justice, and accelerate deployment and decarbonization.⁵ In order to realize these benefits, agencies must coordinate existing capacities, and research and plan for new policy strategies to unleash transformative business models that create union jobs and deliver affordable decarbonization to working class communities.

SB 787 would pursue these missions and task the CEC with achieving the following outcomes:

- Collecting industry, firm, and consumer data on costs and prices; analyzing the technology and innovation ecosystem; forecasting production and financing costs in named supply chains.
- Creating a central hub for companies in the named industries interested in siting in California, compiling and offering streamlined financial and site information, workforce development resources, and other supportive state, local, and nonprofit services.

¹ [Financing a Climate-Safe Future: Low- and Moderate-Income Residential Building Decarbonization](#), pg 3.

² [The Cost of Offshore Wind Energy in the United States From 2025 to 2050](#), pg viii.

³ [Bay Area Residential Decarbonization Industry and Workforce Overview](#), pg 18.

⁴ [Powering Prosperity: Building an Inclusive Lithium Supply Chain in California's Salton Sea Region](#), pg 77.

⁵ [Using Industrial Policy for Productive Transformation](#), pg 6.

- Convening two public meetings per year to evaluate how state agencies with authority in offshore wind, building decarbonization, and batteries can most effectively facilitate the accelerated deployment of clean energy technologies, reduce prices for California ratepayers, and create high-quality supply chain jobs and industrial bases.
- Working with subgroups of stakeholders to identify policies to induce in-state production of manufactured products, overcome barriers to deployment, and lower the unit price to public entities and low income consumers of needed goods and services through the use of stockpiles, central procurement, state enterprises and direct pay, public-private joint ventures, government equity stakes, price management, bond issuance, and public financing.

SB 787 would also create an MOU among the CEC, CPUC, DGS, GO-Biz, LWDA, and the Treasurer to coordinate public resources supporting industry development including R&D resources, economic development programs, industry incentives, utility and infrastructure programs, and siting services. Under this MOU, the agencies would identify priority industry segments for development to achieve vertically and horizontally integrated in-state industry growth and develop strategies to ensure community benefits and high road job outcomes.

SB 787 offers the opportunity for California to lead US states in a time of unparalleled uncertainty with a new vision of industrial policy that brings strategic supply chains to California and to the US, lowers energy prices for working Californians, delivers union jobs, and accelerates progress on our climate goals. This is an opportunity for California to show leadership among US states on manufacturing, job growth, and real solutions to climate change and inequality.

We respectfully request your AYE vote in support of SB 787 (McNerney).

Sincerely,

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United Autoworkers (UAW) Region 6

Fatima Iqbal-Zubair
California Environmental Voters

Raquel Dominguez
Earthworks

Aesha Mahmoud
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Jeremy Goldberg
Central Coast Labor Council, AFL-CIO

Daniela Flores
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Virginia Irwin Klausmeier
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Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE)

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Vince Sugrue
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SMART, Sheet Metal Workers' Local Union No. 104

Eli Lipmen
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