

March 14, 2023

The Honorable Steven Bradford
Chair, Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 3350
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 48 (Becker) Water and Energy Savings Act -- Support

Dear Chair Bradford,

The California Efficiency + Demand Management Council (Council) writes to express our appreciation and notify the Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communications of the Council's support for SB 48.

The Council is the premier, statewide non-utility trade association whose Members design, implement, maintain, and evaluate energy efficiency, demand response, distributed energy resources, and data analytics services and products. We work to unlock energy efficiency and demand management resources that are vital to lower utility bills, cleaner energy, reliable power, and equitable access to clean energy technologies - all of which are critical to achieving California's ambitious energy and climate goals.

California leads the nation in clean energy jobs with nearly 300,000 Californians employed in the energy efficiency sector alone.¹ The state's advancement of energy efficiency has cut customers' electricity demand by nearly 20%, saving Californians roughly \$90 billion on their bills over the last 50 years.² Despite the state's efficiency successes there are still opportunities to further energy and financial savings, helping relieve grid stress (reducing the likelihood of summer blackouts) and cutting energy-related emissions.

The Council supports SB 48's framing of a cross-agency strategy to leverage energy and water usage data to track and manage energy and water usage and emissions of greenhouse gases of "covered buildings". Energy consumption data can be used effectively to help the state improve energy and grid reliability, expand energy equity, ease bill impacts, further integrate clean energy technologies, and reduce GHG emissions. The Council recommends building off of other states' and jurisdictions' experiences by pursuing building performance standards consistent with that cross-agency strategy.

The Council appreciates Senator Becker, his staff, and the Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communications for the opportunity to speak in support of SB 48.

Sincerely



Joseph Desmond
Executive Director, California Efficiency + Demand Management Council

CC: The Honorable Members of the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee
The Honorable Josh Becker

¹ <https://e2.org/reports/clean-jobs-america-2022/>

² <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/ca-energy-efficiency-opportunity-report.pdf>