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California Efficiency + Demand Management Council Oral Testimony to the Senate Energy, Utilities, & Communications Committee Hearing Re: SB 48 April 10, 2023

Chair Bradford and members of the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee:

My name is Joseph Desmond, I am the Executive Director for the California Energy Efficiency and Demand Management Council (the Council), testifying in support of Senate Bill 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.

California's energy efficiency leadership has cut customers' electricity demand by nearly 20%, saving Californians roughly \$90 billion on their bills over the last 50 years. Despite these 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.

SB 48 will advance energy efficiency savings for Californians through a cross-agency and statewide strategy, in part, leveraging energy and water usage data. Energy usage data can be used effectively to help improve energy and grid reliability, expand energy equity, ease bill impacts, further integrate clean energy technologies, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The Council is supportive of a regulatory process that considers a broad range of stakeholder input on how to advance energy efficiency to further energy savings and emissions reductions, including through a building performance standard. There are many components of a building performance standard that would benefit from a thoughtful stakeholder dialogue.

We applaud Senator Becker and his staff for their focus on furthering efficiency measures as an important component of advancing the State's ambitious climate and clean energy goals. For these reasons, the Council supports SB 48 and encourages your "aye" vote. Thank you for your time and the opportunity to speak in support of SB 48.