



February 7, 2022

Senate Transportation and Energy Committee
Colorado General Assembly
200 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Re: SB22-051 Policies to reduce emissions from the built environment

Dear Members of the Senate Transportation & Energy Committee:

My name is Ann Sutton, living in Westminster, CO. This testimony represents the position of the League of Women Voters of Colorado (LWVCO) on the bill to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from heating and cooling private sector commercial and residential buildings and from the manufacture and transport of certain building materials. The LWVCO believes in an interrelated approach to combating climate change including air pollution controls, promoting renewable resources, and protecting public health. The League supports climate goals and policies that ensure a stable climate system.

This bill encourages the replacement of fossil-fuel combustion that contributes to GHG pollution for space heating with clean heat from heat pumps. Colorado State University Extension has stated in a fact sheet on *Heating Colorado Homes* that "over time, ... the environmental benefits from using heat pumps are expected to grow as the grid uses more clean energy." Further, heat pumps will benefit and protect building occupants by reducing inside hazardous air pollution from products of combustion.

LWVCO previously supported SB20-159 Global Warming Potential For Public Project Materials, which unfortunately was lost due to the shortened legislative session. Unlike operational carbon emissions, which can be reduced with clean energy innovations such as heat pumps, embodied carbon emissions from the construction process are locked in place as soon as a building is built. SB22-051 encourages choosing decarbonizing building materials.

We are pleased to express our strong support for this bill and thank the committee for their careful review and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ann Sutton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ann Sutton, Volunteer Lobbyist
League of Women Voters of Colorado
1410 Grant Street, Suite B-204
Denver, CO 80203