

## SB 350: Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015 SUPPORT

• The League of Women Voters recognizes that climate change is real and that its effects are already being seen.

This is a critical issue facing our planet that needs to be seriously addressed. California has been a leader in this area, but with impacts here in California and elsewhere ever more apparent, it is prudent and timely to chart a long-term path for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

• We support SB 350 (de León and Leno), which enacts new "50-50-50" benchmarks for GHG emission reduction.

These "50-50-50" goals include raising the state's Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) from 33 percent to 50 percent electricity coming from renewable energy; striving for a 50 percent reduction in petroleum use; and cutting energy use in buildings by 50 percent. SB 350 sets these standards for 2030 and makes them verifiable and enforceable.

- **SB 350 is consistent with and strengthens previous RPS policies and legislation.** In 2011, Governor Brown signed legislation to increase the RPS to 33 percent by the year 2020. California is on the path to meet this goal, but further emission reductions are needed.
- **SB 350 sets the goal of reducing petroleum use by 50 percent in the next 15 years.** Studies have shown that this can be achieved by the use of more efficient cars and trucks, electric vehicles, and low carbon fuels, and by reductions in vehicle miles travelled.
- Energy efficient buildings can cut heating and cooling energy use by 50 percent while saving money and reducing pollution.
  SB 350 gives California's energy agencies the authority to review and revise our state's energy efficiency programs and to marshal the funds and regulatory actions necessary to reach this target.
- SB 350 will keep California a leader in the global green economy by creating jobs, boosting our economy, and improving public health.
  SB 350 sends a clear signal to investors and businesses that California is committed to longterm climate action, and that we will continue incentives for innovation in technology and resource management policies.

## We urge our legislators to support SB 350 when it comes before them for a vote!