

THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

September 3, 2019

The Honorable Richard E. Neal 2309 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Neal,

We are writing today to thank you for your actions in the Ways and Means Committee to move favorably on H.R. 3301 and to urge you to push for action in the full House to pass this legislation. Tax extenders relating to clean energy are integral to our efforts to combat climate change and to ensure our clean energy industry continues to grow. We would also urge you to include energy storage tax extenders in this package. Storage can provide a host of critical services to the grid, and importantly, ensures that intermittent energy sources are reliable and resilient resources.

It is important that we move forward transitioning to clean energy resources expeditiously. The latest reports from both the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the US Government National Climate Assessment report increasingly dire threats from climate change; and the IPCC reports that the cost of inaction dealing with Climate Change is significant with a 1.5° C change in global temperature costing an estimated \$54 Trillion. In Massachusetts, the costs of preparing our communities for the damaging effects of rising sea levels, severe weather, invasive species, loss of habitat and increasing health care costs are estimated in the billions of dollars. The Massachusetts House has been doing their part. We are leading the nation in energy efficiency; we have been a leader in both solar and the potential for offshore wind development. This July, the House passed a \$1.3 billion bill to prepare our communities to mitigate the damages we anticipate from climate change.

However, we cannot effectuate change ourselves; we need Congress to act. There is bipartisan support to address climate change through extension and expansion of tax credits; which will level the playing field for new and innovative technologies in clean energy that create jobs and boost the economy. We know that continued incentives in technologies such as wind

and solar continue to transition our country to 100% clean energy. We know that continued investments in clean energy will assist in reduction of carbon and prepare our communities for the effects of climate change, while supporting transformation of our electric system, creating an innovative economy and a healthier environment.

We would also respectfully request your consideration of adding energy storage to the list of energy resources eligible for the tax extenders in this legislation. Energy storage is critical to the modernization of our electric grid with the continued deployment and expansion of intermittent clean energy technologies such as wind and solar, ensuring a more resilient and efficient system. Storage deployment has the potential to deliver huge savings to ratepayers by reducing energy costs, peak capacity, as well as the costs of ancillary services, transmission and distribution, wholesale markets and costs associated with integration of distributed energy resources.

Again, we want to thank you for your past support and strong voice on the issue of clean energy. As members of the Massachusetts House, we urge you to pass H.R. 3301 so that we can continue to create jobs, transition our energy system and do our part in the U.S. to combat climate change.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Golden, Jr.

State Representative 16th Middlesex District

Daniel CahillState Representative

10th Essex District

Josh Cutler

State Representative 6th Plymouth District

Carolyn C. Dykema

State Representative 8th Middlesex District

Daniel Cullinane

State Representative 12th Suffolk District

Shawn Dooley

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Denise C. Garlick

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