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

Carolyn G. Dykema
State Representative
8th Middlesex District

Daniel Cahill
State Representative
10th Essex District

Daniel Cullinane
State Representative
12th Suffolk District

Josh Cutler
State Representative
6th Plymouth District

Shawn Dooley
State Representative
9th Norfolk District
Dylan A. Fernandes  
State Representative  
Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket

Kenneth I. Gordon  
State Representative  
21st Middlesex District

James K. Hawkins  
State Representative  
2nd Bristol District

Maria Duaine Robinson  
State Representative  
6th Middlesex District

David A. Robertson  
State Representative  
19th Middlesex District

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.  
State Representative  
20th Middlesex District

Jay D. Livingstone  
State Representative  
8th Suffolk District

Lindsay N. Sabadosa  
State Representative  
1st Hampshire District

Natalie M. Blais  
State Representative  
1st Franklin District

Carole A. Fiola  
State Representative  
6th Bristol District

Susannah M. Whipps  
State Representative  
2nd Franklin District

Denise C. Garlick  
State Representative  
13th Norfolk District
Mary S. Keefe
State Representative
13th Worcester District

Brian M. Ashe
State Representative
2nd Hampden District

Paul F. Tucker
State Representative
7th Essex District

Ann-Margaret Ferrante
State Representative
5th Essex District

Paul W. Mark
State Representative
2nd Berkshire District

Michael J. Finn
State Representative
6th Hampden District

Christine P. Barber
State Representative
34th Middlesex District

Kate Hogan
State Representative
3rd Middlesex District

Steven Ultrino
State Representative
33rd Middlesex District

Denise Provost
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27th Middlesex District

Mathew J. Muratore
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David Biele
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4th Suffolk District
David LeBoeuf  
State Representative  
17th Worcester District

James Arciero  
State Representative  
22nd Middlesex District

Tricia Farley-Bouvier  
State Representative  
3rd Berkshire District

John F. Velis  
State Representative  
4th Hampden District

John Barrett III  
State Representative  
1st Berkshire District

Linda Dean Campbell  
State Representative  
15th Essex District

William M. Straus  
State Representative  
10th Bristol District

Tram T. Nguyen  
State Representative  
18th Essex District

Aaron Vega  
State Representative  
5th Hampden District

Paul Brodeur  
State Representative  
32nd Middlesex District

Claire D. Cronin  
State Representative  
11th Plymouth District

Brian W. Murray  
State Representative  
10th Worcester District