



March 23, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Skinner
California State Senate
Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA

Re: SB 1240 – Modern, Resilient Electric Distribution System -- SUPPORT

Dear Senator Skinner,

The signatories to this letter support your legislation, [SB 1240](#), requiring the California Energy Commission, in consultation with the Independent System Operator, to identify, evaluate and report to the Legislature regarding options for transforming electric distribution grids into open-access networks to facilitate local government and third-party clean energy projects.

An open-access distribution grid will enable local governments and third parties to deploy cost-effective, local clean energy projects that meet local needs and priorities, contribute to state policy goals for decarbonization, resilience and equity, create local investment and employment, and enhance electric grid reliability and operational efficiency. SB 1240 initiates an essential state policy assessment to identify the best ways to align electric distribution utility functions and incentives with California's 21st-century energy needs and priorities.

Thank you for your leadership in introducing SB 1240.

Sincerely,

Ellie Cohen
CEO
The Climate Center

Susannah Churchill
California Director
Vote Solar

Allie Detrio
Senior Advisor
Microgrid Resources Coalition

Craig Perkins
President & Executive Director
The Energy Coalition

Cc: Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communications