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