



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ALLIANCE

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3 Bills Move Forward to Expand Renewable Energy in California

SB 100, SB 366, & AB 523 Increase Benefits of Clean Energy for EJ Communities

Sacramento, CA | June 5, 2017 — Members of the [California Environmental Justice Alliance](#) expressed appreciation for a range of environmental justice measures in their [2017 Environmental Justice Legislative Agenda](#), which passed floor votes at the close of the first half of the legislative session last week. The bold steps taken by Senate and Assembly leadership on these bills demonstrate an increase in statewide support for environmental justice and programs to increase equitable energy programs. In this critical political moment where President Trump and top leaders are rolling back on renewable energy, we are turning to California's leaders to set a model for the rest of the nation by doubling down on renewable energy, especially in areas that need it the most.

- **SB 100 (De León) – 100% Clean Energy** Sets California on a path to 100% clean renewable energy by the year 2045. It is a critical step in achieving the energy paradigm shift we need to achieve the greenhouse gas reduction target set by Senate Bill 32. SB 100 accomplishes this by accelerating the state's current 50% Renewable Portfolio (RPS) requirements by 2025, raising the RPS to 60% in 2030, and establishing a goal for the state to satisfy all its electricity needs from carbon-free resources by 2045.

- *Passed the Senate Floor with a 25-13 vote.*

- **SB 366 (Leyva) – Renewable Energy for All** Expands renewable energy and increases savings for low-income customers. Improves and provides equity focus to the Green Tariff Shared Renewables Program established by SB 43 by expanding available megawatts for shared renewable energy projects located in environmental justice communities.

- *Passed the Senate Floor with a 35-4 vote.*

- **AB 523 (Reyes) – Equity in Clean Energy Investments** Brings investments to disadvantaged and low-income communities to access renewable energy. Requires the California Energy Commission to allocate at least 25% of the Electric Program Investment Charge Fund for technology demonstration and deployment at sites located in disadvantaged communities, and at least 10% in low-income communities.

- *Passed the Assembly Floor with a 51-20 vote.*

"SB 100 will transition our state away from fossil fuels that have disproportionately impacted the most disadvantaged communities and communities of color. The bill charts a pathway for the public health and economic benefits of local renewable energy to reach communities that need it the most. CEJA applauds the leadership of President pro Tem de León and California to lead the nation in aggressive and equitable energy policies in a time when our national leaders are moving backwards on climate change and renewable energy."

— **Strela Cervas, Co-Director of [California Environmental Justice Alliance](#)**

"SB 366 improves the state's current shared solar program by ensuring meaningful energy savings for low-income residents and encouraging greater deployment of solar projects in environmental justice communities. By addressing barriers around affordability and access, SB 366 promises to deliver the

multitude of benefits from renewable energy to our communities. We thank Senator Leyva for her leadership on moving this bill forward and applaud her commitment to creating a more equitable clean energy sector.”

— **Amee Raval, Research and Policy Advocate at [Asian Pacific Environmental Network](#)**

“Thank you Assemblymember Reyes for your strong commitment and leadership to a clean energy future for all. AB 523 removes barriers that prevent communities from participating in our state's clean energy programs. With this bill, environmental justice communities will have the resources and research necessary for their participation in California's growing clean energy economy.”

— **Abigail Ramirez, Policy Advocate at [Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability](#)**

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[California Environmental Justice Alliance](#) is a statewide, community-led alliance that works to achieve environmental justice by advancing policy solutions. We unite the powerful local organizing of our members in the communities most impacted by environmental hazards – low-income communities and communities of color – to create comprehensive opportunities for change at a statewide level. We build the power of communities across California to create policies that will alleviate poverty and pollution. Together, we are growing the statewide movement for environmental health and social justice.

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