



EARTHWORKS



A Union of Educators & Classified Professionals



RISING SUN CENTER FOR OPPORTUNITY



WORKING PARTNERSHIPS USA

Honorable Governor Newsom  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

September 17, 2025

**RE: Request for Signature, SB 787 (McNerney) – Energy: Equitable Clean Energy Supply Chains and Industrial Policy in California**

Dear Governor Newsom,

We, the undersigned organizations, write to respectfully request your signature on SB 787 (McNerney), which marks a critical step forward in expanding high quality jobs and critical in-state supply chains while accelerating our progress on California’s climate and energy affordability goals.

California leads the nation in innovative policies to decarbonize our energy system and economy. However we lack a comprehensive approach to building out the supply chains we need to tackle the climate crisis – especially for the battery, building decarbonization, and offshore wind industries. SB 787 delivers on this mission through the creation of a Senior Counselor on Industrial Policy and Clean Energy Development within the California Energy Commission and an MOU among state agencies to coordinate state investment, regulation, and industry planning toward the triple goal of accelerated decarbonization, making energy affordable to working people, and growing the base of middle class, union supply chain and installation jobs.

SB 787 focuses on three industries: vehicle, home, and grid storage batteries; building decarbonization and heat pumps; and offshore wind. State agencies and the legislature have identified these industries as critical to transition, yet they face similar constraints to growth:

- Current business models will not achieve deployment rates at pace with climate goals.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Current business models do not capitalize on massive in-state demand to deliver high quality, union supply chain jobs at scale.<sup>3,4</sup>
- There is no comprehensive strategy in these industries to bring down costs to consumers, especially low-income Californians.

Underlying these challenges, California’s state agencies are not currently systematically integrated across planning, investment, regulatory, and research work in these industries. There is no coordinated plan or strategy among agencies to affordably decarbonize at pace, at scale, and deliver union supply chain jobs.

California’s outsized demand for millions of heat pumps, dozens of gigawatts of offshore wind energy, and millions of batteries can be a boon to in-state manufacturing, economic development,

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<sup>1</sup> [Financing a Climate-Safe Future: Low- and Moderate-Income Residential Building Decarbonization](#), pg 3.

<sup>2</sup> [The Cost of Offshore Wind Energy in the United States From 2025 to 2050](#), pg viii.

<sup>3</sup> [Bay Area Residential Decarbonization Industry and Workforce Overview](#), pg 18.

<sup>4</sup> [Powering Prosperity: Building an Inclusive Lithium Supply Chain in California’s Salton Sea Region](#), pg 77.

and high paying quality jobs. Creative approaches to structuring markets in these industries can reduce costs to ratepayers and to low income Californians, ensure environmental justice, and accelerate deployment and decarbonization.<sup>5</sup> In order to realize these benefits, agencies must coordinate existing capacities, and research and plan for new policy strategies to unleash transformative business models that create union jobs and deliver affordable decarbonization to working class communities.

SB 787 would pursue these missions by tasking the CEC with achieving the following outcomes:

- Collecting industry, firm, and consumer data on costs and prices; analyzing the technology and innovation ecosystem; forecasting production and financing costs in named supply chains.
- Working with GO-Biz to assist companies in the named industries to site in California by compiling and offering streamlined financial and site information, workforce development resources, and other supportive state, local, and nonprofit services.
- Convening two public meetings per year to evaluate how state agencies with authority in offshore wind, building decarbonization, and batteries can most effectively facilitate the accelerated deployment of clean energy technologies, reduce prices for California ratepayers, and create high-quality supply chain jobs and industrial bases.
- Working with subgroups of stakeholders to identify policies to induce in-state production of manufactured products, overcome barriers to deployment, and lower the unit price to public entities and low income consumers of needed goods and services through the use of stockpiles, central procurement, state enterprises and direct pay, public-private joint ventures, government equity stakes, price management, bond issuance, and public financing.

SB 787 also establishes an MOU, coming into effect in 2027, among agencies, including the CEC, CPUC, DGS, GO-Biz, LWDA, and the Treasurer. Under the MOU, agencies would coordinate public resources supporting industry development including R&D resources, economic development programs, industry incentives, utility and infrastructure programs, and siting services. Under this MOU, the agencies would identify priority industry segments for development to achieve vertically and horizontally integrated in-state industry growth and develop strategies to ensure community benefits and high road job outcomes.

SB 787 offers an unmissable and incredibly timely opportunity for the administration to lead US states with a new, practical, and bipartisan vision of industrial policy that brings strategic supply chains to California and to the US, lowers energy prices for working Californians, delivers union jobs, and accelerates progress on our climate goals. For this reason, SB 787 is supported by a broad coalition, including labor, environmental groups, businesses, environmental justice groups, counties, clean tech and clean energy industry associations, clean energy developers, community organizations, political committees, ports, and economic development organizations.

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<sup>5</sup> [Using Industrial Policy for Productive Transformation](#), pg 6.

In a time of unparalleled uncertainty, SB 787 presents an opportunity for California to show leadership among US states on manufacturing, job growth, and real solutions to climate change and inequality.

We respectfully request your signature on SB 787.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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