



# CLEAN ENERGY FOR ALL

## IN 2019:

- ▶ 6 new Governors joined the US Climate Alliance, a coalition of 24 bipartisan Governors committed to the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement. Those Governors include Tony Evers (WI), Michelle Lujan Grisham (NM), Janet Mills (ME), J.B. Pritzker (IL), Steve Sisolak (NV), and Gretchen Whitmer (MI).
- ▶ Since January, the Conservation Voter Movement has won significant climate action and Clean Energy for All priorities in 8 states (CO, ID, MD, NJ, NM, NV, WA, SC).
  - 5 states (NM, NV, MD, NJ, SC) passed major climate legislation with bipartisan support.
  - 4 states (NM, MD, NV, WA) have passed a Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) of at least 50% clean energy by 2030, nearly doubling the national total of states with an RPS of this strength to 10.
- ▶ 4 additional states (ME, IL, MN, OR) have had significant climate legislation introduced that puts their state on the path to 100% clean energy.

The Conservation Voter Movement (CVM), which includes LCV and our 30 state partners, launched the Clean Energy for All campaign to move the U.S. to 100 percent clean energy. In the 2018 midterm elections, over 600 successful local, state, and federal candidates made this commitment, including ten new governors. Now, this commitment is becoming a clean energy reality in states across the country.

### Climate action in state legislatures

**COLORADO:** Legislation that requires the state to reduce carbon emissions 90 percent from 2005 levels by 2050, including a critical interim goal of a 50 percent reduction by 2030, was signed into law in May 2019. Additionally, legislation that strengthens oil and gas regulations was signed into law in April 2019. The legislation gives local communities increased control over oil and gas drilling and strengthens methane pollution limits.

**ILLINOIS:** Legislation for carbon-free electricity by 2030 and 100% clean energy by 2050 was introduced in Springfield. Along with ramping up Illinois' clean energy commitments, the bill would require significant clean energy investments in low-income communities.

**MAINE:** Governor Janet Mills announced plans for the state to use 80% clean energy by 2030 (and 100% by 2050) in February 2019, along with support for reducing greenhouse gas emissions 80% from 2005 levels by 2050. Legislation that will require the state to hit these targets has been introduced and will get a vote in June 2019.

**MARYLAND:** The Clean Energy Jobs Act, which commits the state to 50% clean energy by 2030 passed the Maryland General Assembly with bipartisan support in April 2019. Governor Hogan chose not to sign or veto the bill, so it became law in May 2019, making Maryland the 8th state in the country to require at least 50% clean energy by 2030. Legislation to create a grant structure for school districts to transition to electric school buses was signed into law in May 2019.

**MINNESOTA:** Governor Tim Walz announced a plan to get 100% carbon-free energy by 2050 and legislation requiring 100% clean electricity by 2050 passed the House in May 2019. Another bill, the Clean Energy First Act, whose lead author is a Republican Senator, requires all electric utilities operating in the state to use clean energy technology to meet any need for energy development prior to any other technology being considered. This legislation passed the state Senate in May 2019.

**NEW MEXICO:** The state legislature passed with bipartisan support the Energy Transition Act (ETA) in March 2019, making it the 7<sup>th</sup> state in the country to require at least 50% clean energy by 2030. The ETA also requires the state's two remaining coal plants to be retired, the state to be carbon-free by 2045, and creates funding to reinvest in the region that has depended on and been most impacted by coal production while establishing a framework to ensure communities have a seat at the table in that process. Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, who centered her campaign around transitioning to clean energy, made the Energy Transition Act a top priority,

## Clean Buses for Healthy Niños

We know that we cannot reach Clean Energy for All without addressing carbon emissions from the transportation sector, the largest source of emissions in our country. We also know that school children and communities are directly exposed to dangerous diesel emissions. That's why in 2017 LCV's Chispa, in collaboration with national and state partners, launched the Clean Buses for Healthy Niños campaign to fight pollution by switching to clean school buses that run on electricity. We called called on governors and state and local elected officials to put the health of our kids and communities first.

For the last two years, the Clean Buses for Healthy Niños campaign, across six states, has worked tirelessly to bring these dollars to low-income and communities of color where students and families are most at risk of breathing dirty air and disproportionately carry the burden of pollution. This work has translated into significant policy wins in 2019:

- ▶ **ARIZONA:** In April 2019, the Phoenix Union High School District Governing Board voted unanimously to invest in an electric bus pilot program and purchase the district's first electric school bus.
- ▶ **ILLINOIS:** Illinois's LCV chapter secured \$10M in funding for electric school buses and an additional \$10M for EV infrastructure, after a first draft from the previous governor lacked any commitment to electric school buses and infrastructure.
- ▶ **MARYLAND:** In May 2019, Governor Hogan signed bipartisan legislation to create a grant structure for school districts to transition to electric school buses.
- ▶ **MICHIGAN:** Michigan has moved firmly to use its VW allotment to shift toward bus electrification by allocating \$13 million or 20% of its total funds to class 4-8 school buses and allocating \$4 million this year to purchase 18 electric school buses.
- ▶ **NEVADA:** In May 2019, Governor Sisolak signed legislation that provides funding incentives for school districts to transition to electric school buses.
- ▶ **NEW JERSEY:** In June 2019, Governor Murphy established a statewide EV program, 'Partnership to Plug-In,' which is critical to New Jersey's goal of getting 330,000 zero-emission vehicles on the road by 2025. As part of this announcement, the NJ Department of Environment announced it would use a portion of it's VW settlement funds to electrify school buses in the state capital Trenton.
- ▶ **NEW YORK:** In 2019 and through advocacy from NYLCV, Governor Cuomo included \$52 million for electric school buses alone. Also this year, the New York City Department of Education announced a pilot of 4 electric school buses to hit the road this fall.

even appearing personally at the most contentious committee hearing. Lujan Grisham signed the bill into law in March 2019.

**NEVADA:** Legislation to increase the state's RPS to 50% clean energy by 2030 unanimously passed the state legislature in April 2019. Governor Sisolak, who ran his campaign on transitioning to clean energy, signed this legislation on Earth Day, making Nevada the 9th state in the country to require at least 50% clean energy by 2030. A bill to increase solar access among low-income communities and communities of color passed the state legislature in May 2019 and is awaiting the Governor's signature. In May 2019, Governor Sisolak signed legislation that provides funding incentives for school districts to transition to electric school buses.

**NEW JERSEY:** In May 2019, the New Jersey legislature passed with overwhelming bipartisan support landmark legislation that would nearly decarbonize the state by 2050. This legislation would require the state to study, design, and implement GHG regulations to ensure the state meets the 80% greenhouse gas reduction from 2006 levels, with enforceable interim benchmarks.

**NEW YORK:** Governor Cuomo proposed his Green New Deal that requires New York to be powered by 100% carbon free energy by 2040. The plan increases New York's 50% clean energy by 2030 goal to 70% by 2030, with goals to expand New York's leadership on offshore wind.

**OREGON:** The Clean Energy Jobs bill, which caps carbon pollution in Oregon and invests proceeds in clean energy

projects and job training, will get a vote in the state legislature in June 2019. The bill reduces carbon pollution 45% below 1990 levels by 2035 and 80% by 2050. Governor Kate Brown made putting a limit on carbon pollution a core part of her re-election campaign and her state of the state.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** The Energy Freedom Act, a comprehensive clean energy bill that eliminates caps on rooftop solar and allows more large-scale solar, unanimously passed the South Carolina state legislature and was signed into law by the Governor in May 2019.

**WASHINGTON:** Governor Jay Inslee signed major clean energy legislation on May 7 that puts in place groundbreaking measures to reduce carbon emissions, decrease pollution, and increase public health. Specifically, the legislation includes a commitment to transition Washington to 100 percent clean and renewable electricity by 2045, resulting in one in five U.S. residents now living in places that have committed to 100% clean power.

## State progress outside of the state capital

**IDAHO:** In March 2019, the country's largest investor owned utility, Idaho Power, announced plans to reach 100% clean energy by 2045. Avista, another Idaho utility announced its plans for 100% clean energy in April 2019, largely in reaction to the Washington state legislature passing 100% clean energy legislation. Avista operates in Washington state as well as Idaho.



We're asking elected officials across the country to support 100% clean energy to build pollution-free communities.

**CLEAN ENERGY FOR ALL COMMITMENT:  
I SUPPORT TRANSITIONING TO  
100 PERCENT CLEAN ENERGY.**