

February 23, 2022

Testimony: HB0831 - Reducing GHG Emissions - Commercial and Residential Buildings

Organization: Cedar Lane Environmental Justice Ministry (CLEJM)

Submitter: Lee McNair, Co-Leader

Position: FAVORABLE

CLEJM supports this bill and encourages a FAVORABLE outcome in committee.

This bill requires the Department of the Environment to establish building emissions standards for many of our commercial and residential buildings which will help us reach our state GHG emissions reduction goals since buildings are a source of 40% of our emission pollutants.

But CLEJM also urges the committee, in it's deliberations, to consider the need for building efficiency also as this too will be extremely effective in reducing GHG emissions, especially among our low-income and historically disadvantaged communities. It cannot be stated too strongly that we must include these communities and we must make it financially feasible for these communities to meet the required standards. This is not only a just, moral, and ethical

stand to take. It is a very practical action from an economical viewpoint since reducing GHG emissions in these communities will:

- **help the state meet it's climate goals**
- **reduce state supported health costs as the inhabitants will no longer be breathing damaging pollutants**
- **reduce state supported energy and utility costs.**

CLEJM urges a FAVORABLE outcome in committee for HB0831.

We thank you for this opportunity to share our thoughts with you.