

Policy Brief

May 2021

SB 260 (WIENER): CLIMATE CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

POSITION: The Chamber's Public Policy Committee voted to OPPOSE the bill on May 11, 2021. The Board of Directors voted to OPPOSE the bill on May 27, 2021.

RATIONALE: The bill places a significant burden on certain businesses that will undoubtedly result in a negative impact to their operations.

STATUS: SB 260 was introduced on January 26, 2021. It is currently held under submission in the Senate Committee on Appropriations as of May 20, 2021.

SUMMARY

SB 260 directs the California State Air Resources Board (CARB) to regulate US based companies with revenue over \$1B that do business in California. Starting in 2024, those companies would have to report annually their direct and indirect GHG emissions from their own operation and their supply chain. Those reports will then be compiled by CARB who will make a publicly available report that estimates the aggregate GHG impacts of those reporting businesses and make recommendations for reduction efforts and policies. Finally, those businesses would have to submit science-based reduction plans that must be approved by a third-party auditor and the state.

INDUSTRY/IES IMPACTED

This bill would impact all industries. Any business with revenues over \$1 billion a year would be subject.

SUPPORTERS

- CA League of Conservation Voters
- Carbon Accountable
- SD Chapter- Climate Reality Project
- Sierra Club
- SEIU

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR

 The author argues that until we have the data around company emissions, we cannot effectively regulate and reduce them.

OPPONENTS

- CalChamber
- Agricultural Council of California
- BOMA
- California Business Properties Association
- Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION

 Opponents have pointed out that having to report an entire supply chain's GHG emissions would negatively impact not only the businesses covered in the bill, but also the community of small and mid-sized businesses that support large corporations.