

## Massachusetts Clean Energy Bill Provisions Boost Jobs and Strengthen the State's Economy

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The pending 2018 'Act to Promote a Clean Energy Future' includes a range of provisions to address climate change while strengthening the state's innovation economy. They include accelerating renewable energy targets, creating aggressive offshore wind and battery storage goals, and removing limits on rooftop solar. Applied Economics Clinic's (AEC's) study of the economic impacts of these policies found benefits for Massachusetts including new jobs, a stronger economy, more renewable resources, and lower greenhouse gas emissions. At the same time, these policies would have little or no effect on consumers' electric bills through 2030.

The Massachusetts Senate Bill—an 'Act to Promote a Clean Energy Future'—includes four policies that focus on the electric sector:

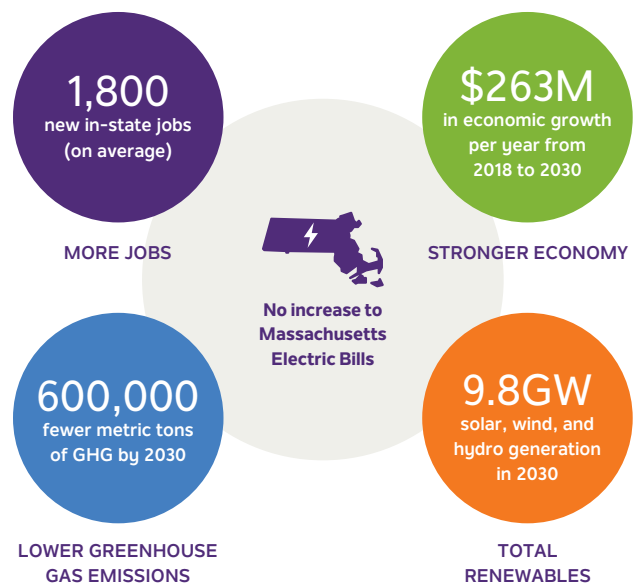
- 1 **RPS:** Accelerate the increase in the Massachusetts Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) from 1 to 3% per year, requiring utilities to supply more of their sales from renewable sources
- 2 **Offshore Wind:** Build 5,000 MW by 2035
- 3 **Battery Storage:** Reach an in-state battery storage goal of 1,766 MW by 2025
- 4 **Lift Net Metering Cap:** Remove the cap on "net metering" (selling energy back onto the grid) from small solar installations

AEC analyzed these policies, and the full electric-sector and economic modeling is described in detail in the report [\*An Analysis of the Massachusetts 2018 'Act to Promote a Clean Energy Future.'\*](#)

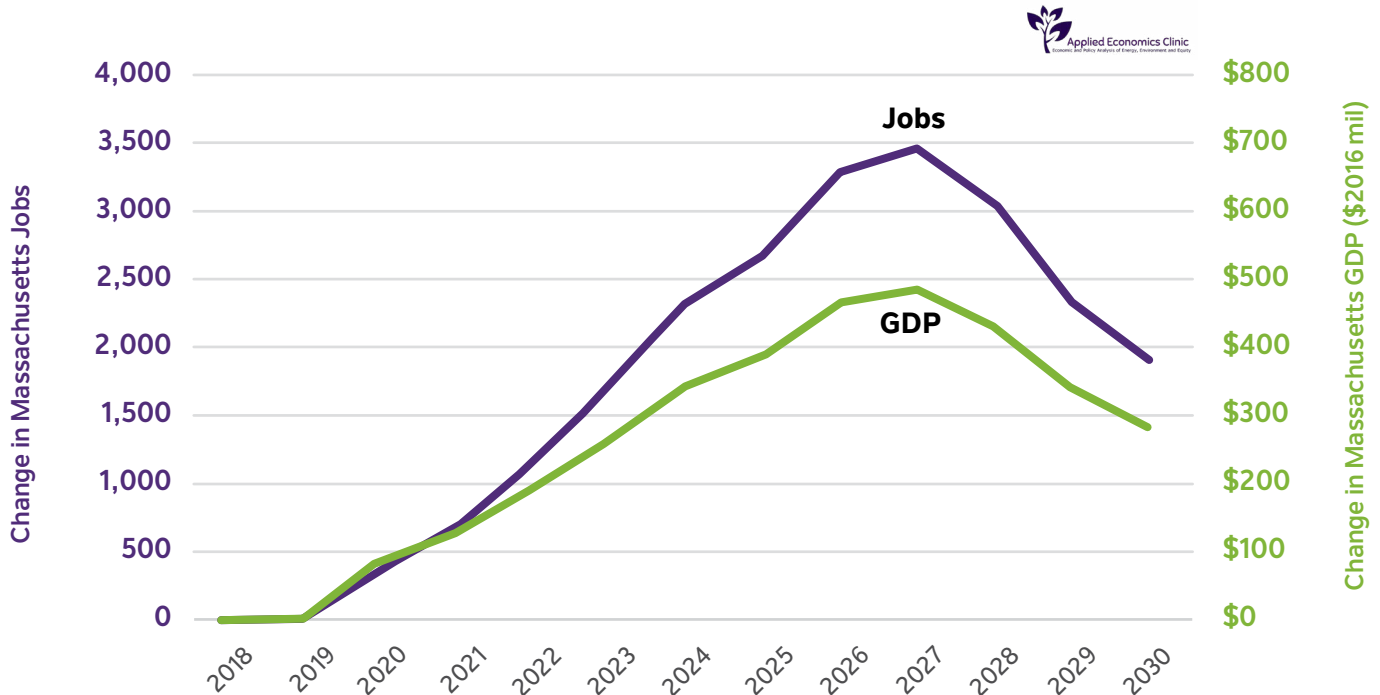
Benefits from these policies include 1,800 new in-state jobs (on average) and \$263 million in economic growth per year - a total of \$3.4 billion in growth over the period from 2018 to 2030 - as compared to a business-as-usual scenario. In addition, Massachusetts would build a total of 9.8GW of solar, wind, and hydro generation, emitting 600,000 metric tons fewer emissions by 2030 - equivalent to removing

128,000 cars from the road. These policies will help the state make progress toward its climate goals, but the results also show that more must be done in other sectors like transportation and buildings.

### ACT TO PROMOTE A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE IN MASSACHUSETTS



## JOB AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN MASSACHUSETTS



### New Clean Energy Requirements Bring Greater In-State Benefits

These electric-sector policies will bring new jobs and GDP growth to Massachusetts. Jobs from electric generation, distribution and the businesses that supply the electric sector with goods and services reach 1,900 in 2030; construction jobs for new renewable generation and battery storage result in even more employment in the late 2020s. Additions to the state economy follow the same pattern, with larger increases to state GDP in the years with the most construction.

### More Renewable Energy and Lower Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Under the ‘Act to Promote a Clean Energy Future’ the pool of electric generators powering New England shifts toward more solar, wind and hydro. As renewable generation grows, Massachusetts statewide greenhouse gas emissions shrink, from 70.4 million metric tons in 2018 to 60.0 million metric tons in 2030—a 36% reduction from Massachusetts’ 1990 emissions level.

Emission reductions from the electric-sector policies are not enough on their own, however, to achieve the full 43% emission reduction called for in the Bill to comply with the Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA). Additional emission reductions from transportation, buildings, and other sectors are needed in combination with electric-sector emission reductions to achieve this lower target.



Solar panels, Sterling, MA