

Action Alert!

Help Us Hold Polluters Accountable!

Great news!

Two of our bills made it through their first committees Tuesday!

SB 8 “Stringency” passed out of Senate Conservation (SCONC), and HB 50 “Private Right of Action” passed out of the House Energy, Environment & Natural Resources Committee (HENRC)!

Thanks to everyone who made phone calls, sent emails, watched a committee hearing and/or spoke in support of our legislative priority bills! We greatly appreciate your support!

SB 8 Stringency now heads to the Senate Judiciary Committee (SJC) and HB 50 heads to the House Judiciary Committee (HJC). **We will send information on upcoming committee hearing dates as soon as that information becomes available to our EJ Policy Advocates volunteers. To receive these Action Alerts, please sign up [here](#). We expect HB 50 to be heard next week, possibly as early as Monday morning.**

We know SB 8 Stringency has a lot of support and momentum; NMED Secretary James Kenney spoke in favor of SB 8 on Tuesday among other ally organizations and community members.

More Supporters Needed in Next Committee Hearing for HB 50

HB 50 faced a lot of opposition Tuesday but was able to pass with a 6 to 5 vote. It’s obvious that industry is deeply opposed to this bill, which would allow individuals—not just the state—to sue polluters for environmental violations. They obviously got the word out and lined up industry reps to speak during Tuesday’s hearing.

We are hoping to turn out more of our supporters to speak up at the next committee hearing.

Can you help us by contacting ally organizations to attend the next hearing and speak up in support of HB 50?

We know it will be heard next in House Judiciary, although we do not yet know which day or time. Meanwhile, we are asking our team and supporters to contact ally organizations and ask them to speak in support of HB 50 when it is heard in House Judiciary, probably next week. Please feel free to use the updated [Fact Sheet on HB 50](#) to reach out to groups who would want to see polluters held more accountable in our state. **As soon as we know when HB 50 will be heard in House Judiciary, we will let you know.**

Support SB 86 Use of Water for Oil & Gas Operations/Produced Water

Meanwhile, SB-86 Produced Water is scheduled to be heard in Senate Conservation (SCONC) today, Thursday, January 28, although since it is item number 7 on the agenda it’s not clear if they will get to it today or not. If you want to speak during Senate Conservation Committee hearings, you must send an email to sconc@nmlegis.gov by 3pm on the day before, with your name, organization/affiliation, bill number(s) you wish to speak about, whether you are for or against, and your email address. You will then be sent the Zoom link. **If you haven’t already, please call the members on the Senate Conservation Committee and urge them to vote yes for SB-86. Contact info for Senate Conservation is below.**

Senate Conservation Committee (SCONC)		
Senator's Name	Phone number	Email
Elizabeth (Liz) Stefanics, Chair	Capitol (505) 397-8851 Office (505) 699-4808 Home (505) 471-7643	lstefanics@msn.com
Antoinette Sedillo Lopez	Capitol (505) 397-8847	a.sedillolopez@nmlegis.gov
Joseph Cervantes	Cap. (505) 397-8820 Office (575) 526-5600	Joseph@cervanteslawnm.com
Carrie Hamblen	Cap. (505) 397-8827 Home (575) 496-5242	carrie.hamblen@nmlegis.gov
Harold Pope Jr.	Cap. (505) 397-8843 Home (505) 289-1087	harold.popejr@nmlegis.gov
William Soules	Cap (505) 397-8850 Home (575) 640-0409	bil.soules@nmlegis.gov

Support Other Bills

While you are on the phone, you might also mention some other bills we are supporting that are on the agenda for today's Senate Conservation Committee hearing:

- SB 84 Community Solar
- SB-112 Sustainable Economy
- SB-83 Local Choice Energy
- SB-103 Restricting Neonicotinoid Pesticides

Support HB 26 TIDDs Bill

Another bill we are asking folks to take action on: HB 26 "Exclude Greenfields from Certain Taxes." We refer to this as the TIDDs bill. HB 26 is on the agenda for the House Local Government, Land Grants & Cultural Affairs Committee (HLLC) for today, Thursday, January 28 at 10am. HB 26 is sponsored by Rep. Andres Romero and would prohibit the use of tax increment development district (TIDD) funds for areas that are not developed. For example, the bill would **prohibit the use of state TIDD funds as an incentive for massive urban sprawl developments with excessive water demands.**

To speak in support of HB 26, just click on the zoom link below at 10am on Thursday, and when you want to speak, click on the Raise Your Hand button. Unlike in the Senate, you do not need to email the committee the day before in order to get into the queue to speak.

Please click the link below to join the webinar on Thursday, January 28 at 10am:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89983253499?pwd=YTdycDFWYUFVdXgzOFEwQXVtMzlvZz09>

Passcode: 391868

We also encourage you to please call the Democratic members of the HLLC committee and urge them to support HB 26. **Contact info for HLLC is below.**

Finally, we are continuously updating our Fact Sheets for [SB 8 \(Stringency\)](#), [SB 86 \(Produced Water\)](#), and [HB 50 \(Private Right of Action\)](#) as additional organizations send us their endorsements. If your organization would like to be listed as a supporter, please email us at nmelc@nmelc.org.

Thank you for your ongoing support! These bills will hold polluters more accountable and help protect New Mexico's precious air, water and land for current and future generations!

In solidarity,

The NMELC Legislative Team

Virginia, Eric, Gail, Charlie, Doug, Maslyn, Kendra, Valerie and Sue

House Local Gov't., Land Grants & Cultural Affairs Committee (HLLC)		
Miguel P. Garcia, chair	Capitol Phone: (505) 986-4844 Home Phone: (505) 877-8131	miguel.garcia@nmlegis.gov
Linda Serrato	Capitol Phone: (505) 986-4464	linda.serrato@nmlegis.gov
Ambrose Castellano	Capitol Phone: (505) 986-4236 Home Phone: (505) 429-6072	ambrose.castellano@nmlegis.gov
Tara Lujan	Capitol Phone: (505) 986-4254	tara.lujan@nmlegis.gov
Roger E. Montoya	Capitol Phone: (505) 986-4464 Home Phone: (505) 927-0108	roger.montoya@nmlegis.gov

Sign up for Action Alerts, be part of our EJ Policy Advocates team!

We want to extend our invitation for those of you who would like to join our **EJ Policy Advocacy Team** and receive **Action Alerts** throughout the session. Each Action Alert will include details on our five priority bills as they make their way through the session and information on how to support our legislation by taking action. Action Alerts will include committee hearing information, legislators to contact including phone numbers and emails, and a short script to assist you in making these critically important phone calls and emails in support of our bills.

To sign up to receive Action Alerts (which would be in addition to our weekly eblast that you are reading now), click [here](#), then click on "Sign Up for Action Alerts" that will direct you to a short Google form.

Many thanks to the 27 individuals who've already signed up -- welcome to the EJ Policy Advocates team!