




STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	<p>Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets</p> <p>45% by 2030 80% by 2040 net-zero by 2050</p> <p>Relative to 1990 levels</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CHAPTER 42-6.2 - 2021 Act on Climate (2021) 	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	2021
 Enacted	<p>Climate Action Plans</p> <p>2022 Update to the 2016 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CHAPTER 42-6.2 - 2021 Act on Climate (2021) 2022 Update to the 2016 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan (2022) 	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	2022
 Enacted	<p>State Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory</p> <p>The 1990-2022 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory was published in December 2024.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> H 7904 - Resilient Rhode Island Act (2014) 1990-2022 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory (2024) 	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	2024

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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Climate Bureaucracy

Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council (EC4)

Establishing Policies

 Enacted

- [H 7904 - Resilient Rhode Island Act of 2014 \(2014\)](#)
- [CHAPTER 42-6.2 - 2021 Act on Climate \(2021\)](#)
- [Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council \(EC4\)](#)

Climate Governance and Equity

Climate Governance

2021

Climate Advisory Bodies

Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council (EC4) Advisory Board and EC4 Science and Technical Advisory Board

Establishing Policies



 Enacted




- [H 7904 - Resilient Rhode Island Act of 2014 \(2014\)](#)
- [CHAPTER 42-6.2 - 2021 Act on Climate \(2021\)](#)
- [Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council \(EC4\) Advisory Board](#)
- [EC4 Science and Technical Advisory Board](#)

Climate Governance and Equity




Climate Governance




2014

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	<p>Environmental Justice Community Definitions</p> <p>"Environmental Justice Focus Areas" are census tracts where the median household income is less than 65% of statewide median income, at least 40% of the population are minorities, at least 25% of households lack English proficiency, or at least 25% of the population are minorities and the municipality's median household income does not exceed 150% of statewide median income.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIDEM Environmental Justice Policy (2023) 	<p>Climate Governance and Equity</p>	<p>Environmental Justice and Equity</p>	<p>2023</p>
 Enacted	<p>Environmental Justice Mapping Tools</p> <p>RIDEM Environmental Justice Area Map</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIDEM Environmental Justice Area Map (2023) 	<p>Climate Governance and Equity</p>	<p>Environmental Justice and Equity</p>	<p>2023</p>

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Not Enacted	<p>Environmental Justice Community Investment Requirements</p> <p>Environmental justice (EJ) community investment requirements help ensure communities most impacted by environmental burdens are benefitting equitably from public programs by requiring a certain percentage of funds and/or benefits from other policies are allocated to EJ communities.</p>	<p>Climate Governance and Equity</p>	<p>Environmental Justice and Equity</p>	
 Not Enacted	<p>Environmental Justice Bureaucracy</p> <p>Environmental justice (EJ) bureaucracy consists of dedicated EJ offices and staff, interagency task forces, and other bodies made up of government staff responsible for developing and implementing EJ policy. These entities are often tasked with integrating EJ and equity into climate policy design and implementation.</p>	<p>Climate Governance and Equity</p>	<p>Environmental Justice and Equity</p>	
 In-Progress	<p>Environmental Justice Advisory Bodies</p> <p>The Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council (EC4) must create an Environmental Justice Committee.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC4 Environmental Justice Committee 	<p>Climate Governance and Equity</p>	<p>Environmental Justice and Equity</p>	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Not Enacted	<p>Cumulative Impact Assessment</p> <p>Cumulative impact assessments determine the health and environmental impacts of renewing or granting a permit for certain pollution-generating facilities in environmental justice communities. Increased pollution burdens in communities may result in the permit application being denied.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	
 Not Enacted	<p>Just Transition Plans</p> <p>Just transition plans are documents that outline policies and recommendations aimed at supporting communities, workers, and industries affected by the transition away from fossil fuels. The plans often focus on workforce development and retraining, job creation, and economic diversification.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	
 Not Enacted	<p>Just Transition Offices and Staff</p> <p>Just transition offices and staff assist workers and communities transitioning away from fossil fuel extraction and use, typically through retraining programs and support with relocation and economic diversification. Offices and staff also coordinate with other state agencies to effectively design policy to achieve a just transition.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Just Transition Advisory Bodies				
 Not Enacted	<p>Just transition advisory bodies write or advise on a state's just transition plan or report, and make recommendations on ways to support affected workers, communities, and industries. The bodies can consist of all non-government members, or be a mix of government and non-government members.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	
Just Transition Funds				
 Not Enacted	<p>Just transition funds support initiatives and investments aimed at facilitating the equitable transition of workers and communities affected by shifts in industries or policies that transition from fossil fuels.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	
Green Banks				
 Enacted	<p>Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RI Gen. Laws § 46-12.2 (1989) • Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank 	Cross-Sector	Climate Finance	1989

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Carbon Pollution Pricing				
The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) covers the electricity sector.				
Establishing Policies				
 Enacted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Pollution Control Regulation No. 46 (2022) Air Pollution Control Regulation No. 47 (2022) R.I. Gen. Laws 23-82.1-23-82-7 (2023) The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) 	Cross-Sector	Carbon Valuation	2007
Social Cost of Carbon				
 Not Enacted	<p>The social cost of carbon is a monetary estimate of the damage of each ton of greenhouse gases emitted. The social cost of carbon is used to quantify and monetize climate damages, representing the net economic cost of climate pollution to society.</p>	Cross-Sector	Carbon Valuation	
Clean Energy and Renewable Portfolio Standards				
 Enacted	<p>100% renewable energy by 2033</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HB 7277A (2022) 	Electricity	Energy Plans and Targets	2022

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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Electricity Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets



Not Enacted

Electricity greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets are set by a state to limit GHG emissions in the electricity sector. These targets aim to reduce emissions by different amounts over time, often expressed as percentage relative to a baseline year.

Electricity

Energy Plans and Targets

Clean Energy Plans

The Road to 100% Renewable Electricity by 2030 in Rhode Island



Enacted

Establishing Policies

- [Executive Order 20-01 \(2020\)](#)
- [The Road to 100% Renewable Electricity by 2030 in Rhode Island \(2020\)](#)

Electricity

Energy Plans and Targets

2020

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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Distributed Generation Carve-out



Not Enacted

The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.

Electricity

Clean Energy Generation

Establishing Policies

- [SPOT – Generation Carve-outs in Rhode Island](#)

Policy Components



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Net Metering



Partially Enacted

The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.

Electricity

Clean Energy Generation





Establishing Policies





- [SPOT - Net Metering in Rhode Island](#)
- [SPOT - Aggregate Net Metering in Rhode Island](#)




Policy Components



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STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Partially Enacted	<p>Shared Renewables</p> <p>The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPOT - Shared Renewables in Rhode Island <p>Policy Components</p>  <p>5/6</p>	Electricity	Clean Energy Generation	
 Enacted	<p>Community Choice Aggregation</p> <p>Rhode Island has an active community choice aggregation program.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB 7786 (2002) • HB 5536 (2017) • SB 877 (2017) 	Electricity	Clean Energy Generation	2002
 Enacted	<p>Energy Storage Targets</p> <p>90 megawatts (MW) of energy storage by 2026, 195 MW by 2028 and 600 MW by 2033</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S 2499 A (2024) 	Electricity	Transmission, Distribution, and Energy Storage	2024

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	<p>Interconnection Standards</p> <p>Rhode Island received a C grade from Freeing the Grid.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freeing the Grid Rhode Island Grade (2023) 	Electricity	Transmission, Distribution, and Energy Storage	2023
 Not Enacted	<p>Coal Phaseouts</p> <p>Coal phaseouts establish a target year by which states must end coal-fired power generation.</p>	Electricity	Coal Retirement	
 Not Enacted	<p>Coal Plant Securitization</p> <p>Coal securitization is a financing tool that allows utility companies to refinance debt they issued to build coal plants and close the facilities early without taking a financial hit or passing costs on to ratepayers.</p>	Electricity	Coal Retirement	
 Enacted	<p>Residential Energy Codes</p> <p>The statewide energy code for residential construction is 2018 IECC with amendments.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rhode Island State Energy Code (2021) S 0855A (2023) 	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Codes	2021

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Commercial Energy Codes				
 Enacted	<p>The statewide energy code for commercial building construction is 2018 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2016 with amendments.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rhode Island State Energy Code (2021) 	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Codes	2021
Stretch Building Energy Codes				
 Enacted	<p>The Rhode Island Stretch Codes are used on a voluntary basis for private and public building construction and renovation projects.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rhode Island Stretch Codes (2018) 	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Codes	2018
Appliance Standards				
 Enacted	<p>The Energy and Water Efficiency Standards apply to 15 products.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> S 0339A (2021) H5550A (2023) S1119 (2023) Appliance and Equipment Efficiency Standards 	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Standards	2023

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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Building Performance Standards

 Not Enacted

Building performance standards establish energy and/or greenhouse gas performance targets for existing buildings in a state. These targets increase in stringency over time, leading to efficiency improvements in buildings to conserve energy and reduce emissions.

Buildings and Efficiency

Building Standards



Clean Heat Standards





 Not Enacted




Clean heat standards establish a performance standard requiring heat providers to deliver a gradually-increasing percentage of low-emission heating services to customers.

Buildings and Efficiency

Building Standards

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	<p>Energy Efficiency Resource Standards (EERS)</p> <p>Electric utilities are required to achieve total energy savings equivalent to 1,397,644 lifetime megawatt-hours (MWh) in 2024, 1,401,610 lifetime MWh in 2025, and 1,413,953 lifetime MWh in 2026.</p> <p>Gas utilities are required to achieve total energy savings equivalent to 7,058,839 lifetime million British thermal units (MMBtu) in 2024, 7,090,690 lifetime MMBtu in 2025, and 7,119,585 lifetime MMBtu in 2026.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Docket No. 23-21-EE (2023) • Recommended Targets for Energy Efficiency and Active Peak Demand Reduction Savings for 2024-2026 (2023) 	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Efficiency	2023
 Enacted	<p>Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)</p> <p>Rhode Island has enacted commercial PACE-enabling legislation and has active programs.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB 6019 Sub A (2013) 	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Efficiency	2013

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Partially Enacted	<p>Weatherization Funding</p> <p>The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPOT - Weatherization Funding in Rhode Island <p>Policy Components</p>  <p>2/4</p>	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Efficiency	
 Not Enacted	<p>All-Electric Buildings</p> <p>All-electric buildings policies require new buildings to be constructed with all-electric heating, cooling, and cooking systems to transition away from fossil-fuel use in buildings.</p>	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Electrification	
 Enacted	<p>Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) Standards</p> <p>Rhode Island LEV Program</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 250-RICR-120-05-37 (2023) 	Transportation	Light-Duty Vehicles	2023

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	<p>Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Mandates</p> <p>Model Year (MY) 2027: 43% of new passenger vehicle sales are ZEVs MY 2030: 68% of new sales are ZEVs MY 2035: 100% of new sales are ZEVs, with up to 20% being hybrid or hydrogen-powered vehicles.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Clean Cars II (2023) • Advanced Clean Cars II Program 	Transportation	Light-Duty Vehicles	2023
 Enacted	<p>Electric Vehicle Rebates</p> <p>The DRIVE EV prroject offers rebates for new and used EVs: up to \$1,500 for new battery and fuel cell electric vehicles, \$1,000 for new plug-in hybrid vehicles, and between \$750-1,000 for used EVs and plug-in hybrid vehicles. The DRIVE+ program offers an additional \$1,500 rebate for low-income applicants.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DRIVE EV Project • DRIVE+ Program 	Transportation	Light-Duty Vehicles	2024
 Enacted	<p>Low NOx Omnibus Rules</p> <p>The Low NOx Omnibus Rule applies to Model Year 2027 onwards.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-NOx Heavy Duty Omnibus (HDO) (2023) 	Transportation	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles	2023

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	<p>Medium- and Heavy-Duty (MHD) Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Mandates</p> <p>By 2035: 55% of Class 2b-3 truck sales are zero-emissions 75% of Class 4-8 straight truck sales are zero-emissions 40% of Class 7-8 tractor sales are zero-emissions.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced Clean Trucks Rule (2023) Advanced Clean Trucks Program 	Transportation	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles	2023
 Not Enacted	<p>Medium- and Heavy-Duty Electric Vehicle (EV) Rebates</p> <p>Medium- and heavy-duty (MHD) electric vehicle rebates consist of programs and policies that offer rebates to make MHD electric vehicles more affordable to increase their adoption in a state.</p>	Transportation	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles	
 Enacted	<p>Public Fleet Electric Vehicle (EV) Procurement Targets</p> <p>25% of the light-duty state fleet are ZEVs by 2030</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Order 23-06 (2023) 	Transportation	Lead by Example	2023

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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Electric Bus Procurement

Targets

 Not Enacted

Electric bus procurement targets require that a certain percentage or number of school buses and/or transit buses purchased or leased by the state, transit authorities, and/or school districts must be electric or zero-emissions.

Transportation

Lead by Example

Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging

Infrastructure Requirements

 Enacted

Requires new public parking lots and existing parking lots undergoing a significant expansion to create designated EV parking spaces if they have 10+ total parking spaces, increasing the required number of EV spaces incrementally up to 200 spaces, with at least 6% of EV parking spaces for lots with over 200 total spaces.


Transportation


EV Charging Infrastructure

2023

Establishing Policies

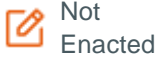
- [SB 988 \(2023\)](#)

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	<p>Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Rebates</p> <p>The PowerUpRI program offers rebates between \$350-700 or 50% (whichever is less) of the purchase and installation costs of a Level 2 EV charger, depending on whether an electric upgrade is needed. The program offers rebates between \$500-1,000, or 75% (whichever is less) for income-qualified residents.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PowerUpRI Program 	Transportation	EV Charging Infrastructure	2024

 Enacted	<p>Electric Vehicle (EV) and EV Charging Infrastructure Plans</p> <p>A Strategic Policy Guide for Improving Public Access to Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure in Rhode Island</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Strategic Policy Guide for Improving Public Access to Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure in Rhode Island (2022) • H 5031 (2021) • S 0994 (2021) 	Transportation	Transportation Plans and Targets	2022
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STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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Transportation Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets



Not Enacted

Transportation greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets are set by a state to limit emissions in the transportation sector. These targets aim to reduce emissions by specific amounts over time, often expressed as a percentage reduction from a baseline year.

Transportation

Transportation Plans and Targets

Low Carbon Fuel Standards



Not Enacted

A low carbon fuel standard (LCFS) is a market-based mechanism to reduce the carbon intensity of transportation fuels and account for the fuel's life cycle greenhouse gas emissions.

Transportation

Transportation Plans and Targets

Bicycle Friendly States



Partially Enacted

Rhode Island is ranked 18th out of 50 in the 2024 Bicycle Friendly State rankings by the League of American Bicyclists.

Establishing Policies

- [Rhode Island Bicycle Friendly State Scorecard](#)





Policy Components






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Transportation


Public and Active Transportation

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Not Enacted	<p>Buy Clean Requirements</p> <p>Buy clean requirements mandate or incentivize the use of low-carbon construction materials, such as concrete and steel, in public projects to address embodied carbon.</p>	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Industrial Decarbonization	
 Enacted	<p>Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) Regulations</p> <p>The state prohibits certain HFCs in specific stationary refrigeration and air-conditioning end-uses.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 250-RICR-120-05-53 (2021) 	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	F-gas Regulations	2021
 Not Enacted	<p>Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF6) Regulations</p> <p>Sulfur hexafluoride (SF6) regulations include phasedown commitments, reporting requirements, bans, or other measures that reduce SF6 usage and emissions.</p>	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	F-gas Regulations	
 Not Enacted	<p>Oil and Gas Methane Regulations</p> <p>Oil and gas methane regulations include phasedown commitments, reporting requirements, leak detection and repair, or other measures that reduce methane emissions from oil and gas production.</p>	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Oil and Gas Regulations	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
 Not Enacted	<p>Fracking Bans</p> <p>Fracking bans prohibit the practice of hydraulic fracking for the production of oil and/or natural gas by a certain year. Legislation often requires an environmental agency or department to promulgate regulations.</p>	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Oil and Gas Regulations	
 Not Enacted	<p>Landfill Methane Regulations</p> <p>Landfill methane regulations include rulemakings, emissions monitoring, emissions control, or other measures that reduce methane emissions from decaying organic waste in landfills.</p>	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Waste Management	
 Enacted	<p>Food Waste Bans and Targets</p> <p>Food waste ban – The state requires educational entities to recycle organic waste at authorized composting or anaerobic digestion facilities, provided they generate at least 30 tons of organic waste per year and are within 15 miles of an authorized recycling facility.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 23-18.9-17 (2014) 	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Waste Management	2014

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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Agriculture Financial Incentives


 Not Enacted

Agriculture financial incentives support healthy soils and regenerative agriculture. Incentives may include reduced crop insurance premiums, property tax exemptions, grants, or cost-share programs.

Natural and Working Lands

Agriculture

Agriculture Technical Assistance Programs

 Not Enacted

Agriculture technical assistance programs provide state-driven technical assistance, apprenticeship and mentorship programs, and support securing additional funding for farmers to increase uptake of soil health practices.

Natural and Working Lands

Agriculture