**INTRODUCTION**

HD.1033/SD.840 An Act Incorporating Embodied Carbon into State Climate Policy will accelerate state-level action to reduce embodied carbon across the Commonwealth’s built environment. It takes critical steps by establishing a state advisory board to address embodied carbon emissions; requiring DOER to put forward recommendations and best practices for measuring and reducing embodied carbon; requiring a report outlining effective regulation strategies for reducing embodied carbon; and incorporating the measurement and reduction of embodied carbon into the stretch and specialized stretch energy code.

**WHAT IS EMBODIED CARBON AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?**

Embodied carbon is the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with the manufacturing, transportation, installation, maintenance, and disposal of building and infrastructure materials and accounts for between 11-23% of global annual emissions. In spite of the staggering impact embodied carbon has on the climate crisis, health, and equity, it is still rarely included in our efforts to reduce emissions. In order for us to transform our buildings from climate polluters to climate protectors, we must address embodied carbon as well as operational carbon.

**WHY THIS LEGISLATION IS IMPORTANT?**

1. **Establishes a State Advisory Board to Identify Effective Approaches to Reduce Embodied Carbon:**
   
   This bill establishes a formal advisory board in our government for critical stakeholders such as building practitioners, architects, and affordable housing advocates to provide input on how our state should approach the complex but important issue of embodied carbon.

2. **Holistically Incorporates Embodied Carbon into Our State’s Climate Action:**
   
   This legislation goes beyond state procurement, by establishing systems and processes whereby the reduction of embodied carbon can be holistically incorporated into state climate policy overall.

3. **Takes Action to Require the Assessment and Reduction of Embodied Carbon in New Buildings:**
   
   This bill goes beyond planning by requiring the reduction of embodied carbon to be included in future updates stretch and specialized stretch building codes. Taking this step will serve as a powerful strategy to reduce embodied carbon in all new buildings and major renovations.

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