

Transparency Asks for MYCC Lobby Week Jan. 2021

The Massachusetts Youth Climate Coalition asks that our legislators demonstrate **unequivocal and transparent support** for our [policy principles](#). This will not be possible without deep reform of State House rules (learn more from our partners [Act On Mass](#)). We share the following 3 asks with our many partners including Act On MA and request that legislators vote in favor of Order Amendments with these changes:

1. ASK: All committee votes must be public and posted on the Legislature's website.

RATIONALE: Most bills, regardless of their support, die in committee without any public facing vote or process of any kind. This makes it impossible for citizens to hold committee members accountable and learn from their opinions. In other states, and on the national level, committee votes are public. Public votes would allow citizens to hold their legislators accountable and trust that they're voting in the public interest.

2. ASK: House and Senate Leadership must give legislators and the public at least 72 hours during business days between when they release a bill and when amendments are due. Legislators must be able to cosponsor amendments on the website up until an amendment is withdrawn.

RATIONALE: Right now legislators and advocates do not have adequate time to read bills, propose thoughtful amendments and build power behind amendments that are in our interests.

3. ASK: No more than 8 members of the House of Representatives must be required to stand for role call in order for every member's vote to be recorded on the public record.

RATIONALE: Right now, the state requirement is 16, which means votes are rarely on the public record. Other states have much lower minimums. Citizens deserve to know how their representatives vote.