












STATUS	STATE	REGION	COMPONENTS	YEAR ENACTED
 Not Enacted	<p>Alabama</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southeast		
 Not Enacted	<p>Alaska</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	West		
 Not Enacted	<p>Arizona</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southwest		
 Not Enacted	<p>Arkansas</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southeast		

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 Not Enacted	<p>California</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	West		
 Not Enacted	<p>Colorado</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	West		
 Not Enacted	<p>Connecticut</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Northeast		
 Not Enacted	<p>Delaware</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southeast		

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 Not Enacted	<p>Florida</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southeast		
 Not Enacted	<p>Georgia</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southeast		
 Enacted	<p>Hawai'i</p> <p>Hawai'i's Constitution states:</p> <p>“Each person has the right to a clean and healthful environment, as defined by laws relating to environmental quality, including control of pollution and conservation, protection and enhancement of natural resources. Any person may enforce this right against any party, public or private, through appropriate legal proceedings, subject to reasonable limitations and regulation as provided by law.”</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haw. Const., Article XI, § 9 (1978) 	West		1978

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Idaho



Not Enacted

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West

Illinois

Illinois' Constitution states:

“SECTION 1. PUBLIC POLICY - LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITY. The public policy of the State and the duty of each person is to provide and maintain a healthful environment for the benefit of this and future generations. The General Assembly shall provide by law for the implementation and enforcement of this public policy.



Enacted





SECTION 2. RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS. Each person has the right to a healthful environment. Each person may enforce this right against any party, governmental or private, through appropriate legal proceedings subject to reasonable limitation and regulation as the General Assembly may provide by law.”

Midwest

1970

Establishing Policies

- [Illinois Constitution, Article XI, § 2 \(1970\)](#)

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 Not Enacted	<p>Indiana</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Midwest		
 Not Enacted	<p>Iowa</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Midwest		
 Not Enacted	<p>Kansas</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Midwest		
 Not Enacted	<p>Kentucky</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southeast		

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Louisiana

 Not Enacted

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Southeast


Maine

 Not Enacted

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Northeast

Maryland

 Not Enacted

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Southeast

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[Massachusetts](#)

The Massachusetts Constitution states:

"The people shall have the right to clean air and water, freedom from excessive and unnecessary noise, and the natural, scenic, historic, and esthetic qualities of their environment; and the protection of the people in their right to the conservation, development and utilization of the agricultural, mineral, forest, water, air and other natural resources is hereby declared to be a public purpose.

The general court shall have the power to enact legislation necessary or expedient to protect such rights.

 Enacted

In the furtherance of the foregoing powers, the general court shall have the power to provide for the taking, upon payment of just compensation therefor, or for the acquisition by purchase or otherwise, of lands and easements or such other interests therein as may be deemed necessary to accomplish these purposes.





Northeast

1972

Lands and easements taken or acquired for such purposes shall not be used for other purposes or otherwise disposed of except by laws enacted by a two thirds vote, taken by yeas and nays, of each branch of the general court."

Establishing Policies

- [Massachusetts Constitution, Article 97 \(1972\)](#)

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 Not Enacted	<p>Michigan</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Midwest		
 Not Enacted	<p>Minnesota</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Midwest		
 Not Enacted	<p>Mississippi</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southeast		
 Not Enacted	<p>Missouri</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Midwest		

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Montana

Montana's Constitution lists inalienable rights that include the right to a clean and healthful environment, and its Environment and Natural Resources article states:

(1) The state and each person shall maintain and improve a clean and healthful environment in Montana for present and future generations. (2) The legislature shall provide for the administration and enforcement of this duty. (3) The legislature shall provide adequate remedies for the protection of the environmental life support system from degradation and provide adequate remedies to prevent unreasonable depletion and degradation of natural resources.

 Enacted

West


1972

Establishing Policies

- [Article IX, Section 1 \(1972\)](#)

Nebraska

An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.

 Not Enacted




Midwest




Nevada




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 Not Enacted

West

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 Not Enacted	<p>New Hampshire</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Northeast		
 Not Enacted	<p>New Jersey</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Northeast		
 Not Enacted	<p>New Mexico</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southwest		

STATUS	STATE	REGION	COMPONENTS	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	<p>New York</p> <p>New York's Green Amendment states that "Each person shall have a right to clean air and water, and a healthful environment."</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S.2072 (2020) • S.528 (2021) • Article 1 Section 19 (2021) 	Northeast		2021
 Not Enacted	<p>North Carolina</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southeast		
 Not Enacted	<p>North Dakota</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Midwest		

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 Not Enacted	<p>Ohio</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Midwest		
 Not Enacted	<p>Oklahoma</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southwest		
 Not Enacted	<p>Oregon</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	West		

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Pennsylvania



Enacted



The Environmental Rights Amendment guarantees Pennsylvanians the right to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of natural, scenic, historic, and aesthetic values of the environment. The Constitution also states "As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people."





Northeast





1971

Establishing Policies

- [Joint Resolution No.4 \(1970\)](#)
- [Joint Resolution No.3 \(1971\)](#)
- [ARTICLE I, SECTION 27 \(1971\)](#)

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 Enacted	<p>Rhode Island</p> <p>The Rhode Island Constitution states:</p> <p>“The people shall continue to enjoy and freely exercise all the rights of fishery, and the privileges of the shore, to which they have been heretofore entitled under the charter and usages of this state, including but not limited to fishing from the shore, the gathering of seaweed, leaving the shore to swim in the sea and passage along the shore; and they shall be secure in their rights to the use and enjoyment of the natural resources of the state with due regard for the preservation of their values; and it shall be the duty of the general assembly to provide for the conservation of the air, land, water, plant, animal, mineral and other natural resources of the state, and to adopt all means necessary and proper by law to protect the natural environment of the people of the state by providing adequate resource planning for the control and regulation of the use of the natural resources of the state and for the preservation, regeneration and restoration of the natural environment of the state.”</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rhode Island Const., Art. I, § 17 (1986) 	Northeast		1986
 Not Enacted	<p>South Carolina</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southeast		

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 Not Enacted	<p>South Dakota</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Midwest		
 Not Enacted	<p>Tennessee</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southeast		
 Not Enacted	<p>Texas</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southwest		
 Not Enacted	<p>Utah</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	West		

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 Not Enacted	<p>Vermont</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Northeast		
 Not Enacted	<p>Virginia</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southeast		
 Not Enacted	<p>Washington</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	West		
 Not Enacted	<p>West Virginia</p> <p>An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.</p>	Southeast		

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Wisconsin

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Midwest

Wyoming

 Not Enacted

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West