

Written Testimony of Rachel Hurvitz,

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Before the Connecticut General Assembly Energy and Technology Committee

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Written Testimony in support of HB 6635, An Act Concerning Solar Power

I am a resident of West Hartford and have lived in Connecticut most of my life. I recently just graduated from college and have found myself let out into one of the worst economic environments for generations. It is clear that the way our nation has been functioning has been insufficient and as our new great president Barack Obama says, it's time for change.

To me it is no small coincidence that our nation is discovering the fragility of both our fiscal markets and our environment at the same time. We as a nation have been wasteful and careless. We look to get things done quickly and cheaply and we don't often consider the ramifications. The plummeting levels of the Dow Jones and the raging levels of carbon emissions are a clear measurement of our nations irresponsibility.

I fully support the Act Concerning Solar Power because it is one of many responsible steps that we need to take as a state and nation. As a nation we need to decrease our dependency on crude oil and start exploring other clean energy sources. Connecticut needs to step up and be leader and help reduce our states carbon emissions. Our environment is suffering and this Solar Power Act could be a strong catalyst for change.

As young adult I have to worry about the state of the environment in 10, 20, 30 even 40 and 50 years from now. What world will my children have to live in? Imagine what this country looked like when you were a child and compare it to the world around us now. It is obvious if we continue down these destructive paths that our earth will not sustain these high levels of pollution. We need to implement pollution-free power and we should not wait!

Economically these tasks may initially appear expensive during these times of tough budgets and belt tightening. But we must remember that in the long run these projects will save Connecticut money and in the short-run they will create much-needed jobs.

"I look forward to an America which will not be afraid of grace and beauty, which will protect the beauty of our natural environment, which will preserve the great old American houses and squares and parks of our national past and which will build handsome and balanced cities for our future." - **John F. Kennedy**

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