

Written Testimony of Roberta Paro
Before the Connecticut General Assembly
Energy and Technology Committee

March 10, 2009

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

Because I think my life and everyone else's life who lives in Connecticut will be better because of the passage of HB 6635, I am taking the time to write what I think some of the important contributions would be from its passage. First, passage and implementation would create an estimated 8,400 local jobs. Seventy-five percent of photovoltaic jobs involve installation. This may be the first time since manufacturing declined that the residents of our cities have a chance at learning skills that will pay them a good wage and they can contribute in a positive manner to our society.

I would like to see solar panels on the roofs of all the schools and municipal buildings in our towns and cities. These visible signs of progress in creating a new energy future would bring hope to the young people who face global climate disruption due to the effects of global warming.

Another thing I like about solar power is that it works at peak times. This means our dirtiest power plants will not have to operate. We will have cleaner air and less health problems from air pollution.

And, along with the health benefits from having cleaner air, the social benefits of lifting people out of poverty with green collar jobs and the hope that will be found, solar power would bring greatly reduced electric bills for the cost of approximately 70 cents a month for the average rate payer.

Please support HB 6635, an Act Concerning Solar Power.

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