

Connecticut has been a leader; now Massachusetts and New Jersey surpass us with their solar legislation. This is the moment when we still have a chance to move forward with green jobs, allowing towns and schools to consider installing systems...saving them money and educating citizens and students. **WITHOUT THE PASSAGE OF HB 5362 MANY COMPANIES WILL DIE; SKILLED WORKERS WILL WORK ELSEWHERE.** The passage of HB 5362 is an economic winner for our state. Please help us to be proud of this wise choice.

Thank you,

Judi Friedman

My name is Judi Friedman, and I live at 101 Lawton Rd. in Canton. I sincerely and passionately urge you to support HB5362. As Chairperson of PACE (PEOPLE'S ACTION FOR CLEAN ENERGY, INC.) since 1974 and as the happy owner of a 4.4 kW system since 2000 and a domestic hot water system since 1976 I can personally attest to the attributes of various solar technologies. It has been my privilege to have witnessed the wonderful albeit uneven growth of the solar industry in Connecticut. We made wise choices in the 70's and early 80's as the solar industry grew. Showcasing homes and businesses all over Connecticut was a source of great joy and pride for the thousands of people who attended our tours. When tax incentives disappeared, and our nation was lulled by the deception of cheap oil, plentiful coal and nuclear energy "too cheap to meter", we lost much of our solar industry...except for a few amazing companies.

Then dawn struck! And people were re-energized by the concept of solar technology...one that uses a fuel that is basically free, can be produced locally and improves our health, our economic base, our job possibilities and reduces our need for transmission lines and peak production challenges.

Much of the success of this renaissance is due to the wisdom of those who helped to found the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund with whom I have worked for several years. Funded by ratepayers not taxpayers this fund has helped to create new companies, increase the amount of green jobs and created educational opportunities for schools and citizens. I have worked with Evergreen, Waldo Solar, Sunlight Solar, PV squared, and Alteris to name a few. It has been a source of joy to watch these companies and their staff grow and flourish. And I can personally attest to the deep enthusiasm that the public has for this safe, sane, home-grown, peaceful technology.