

To: The Honorable Members of the Finance Committee
From: Andy Bauer, Chair, Portland Clean Energy Task Force
256 Old Marlborough Tnpk.
Portland, CT 06480

March 22, 2010

Written Testimony in Opposition to S.B. No. 484 AN ACT CONCERNING THE
GOVERNOR'S REVENUE PLAN.

There's no other way to say this: Portland and other municipalities will be hurt by the Governor's proposed misuse of the Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy Funds. If the state wishes to help municipalities reduce their need for state dollars, the state needs to continue the proven success of its award winning Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy initiatives.

Let's be clear: the Governor's misappropriation of these funds pulls the rug out from under any town's efforts to:

- 1) reduce energy costs.*
- 2) do it's part to reduce use of dwindling and increasingly expensive foreign fuels*
- 3) help stimulate local job growth*

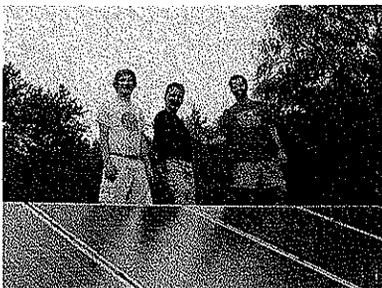
Hundreds of town residents have benefited from Home Energy Solution visit that weatherize homes and save them money and fuel. Our Clean Energy Task Force, Public Works Department, and Board of Education have done the preliminary work necessary to support renewable energy:

The Portland Town Garage and High/Middle School Campus are 'shovel ready' to receive large solar PV arrays. Yet we are in a holding pattern, awaiting funds to be allocated to the popular CT Clean Energy Fund solar rebate programs. Against the current economic backdrop, it is not wise to put the brakes on one of the few growth sectors this country has going.

For these and other reasons, do not raid the Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy funds. It is a dishonest move that takes ratepayer funding and turns it into a tax.

Sincerely,

Andy Bauer



Local PV installers on my house. That's thousands of dollars into the local economy made possible by the Clean Energy Fund.



Local PV installers on Valley View school in Portland. Made possible by over 200 Clean Energy Option sign ups in Portland and the CT Clean Energy Fund's Clean Energy Communities program. This array returns approximately \$2,500 annually to the town.