

As a member of Hartford's Advisory Commission on the Environment (ACOTE), I urge support for **HB 5412, An Act Concerning Shared Clean Energy Facilities.**

This bill would allow residents to invest in a shared renewable system and then receive full credit for their portion of the electricity generated, right on their electricity bill and could bring needed solar power to working communities.

I look forward to hearing back from you on this important issue.

Sincerely,  
JoAnne Bauer, Ph.D.  
25 North Beacon St  
Hartford, CT 06105

**BACKGROUND per PACE:**

This is an important step in the fight for access to clean, affordable renewable energy in Connecticut. It would allow communities to band together and use common sites to produce solar power for people in locations with small roofs and too much shade such as crowded inner-city neighborhoods.

Why this is important: until recently, the clean energy fund and efficiency funds mostly benefitted corporations and well-off people to acquire solar power. They were subsidized by all ratepayers, including working families and low-income families, who paid the clean energy charge on the electric bill. Many communities have virtually no good options to receive the benefits of solar power, yet everyone still has to pay the clean energy charge.

This bill could change this picture in significant ways if employed fairly to **bring solar power to low-income and working communities.** It would allow people in crowded urban areas or with shaded properties or small roof areas to band with others to use common sites to generate solar power and divide the energy produced to receive full credit for the solar energy produced right on the monthly electric bill.

Bringing this energy to congested urban centers can help reduce CO2 and other pollutants. It can also help reduce energy costs and, as more solar comes online, help reduce the most costly "peak" power costs for the state as a whole for which we are currently being penalized by a federal tax on our energy.