

## Shaiken, Benjamin

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**From:** David Schonfeld <dschonfeld@fastmail.fm>  
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Testimony of David Schonfeld Before the Energy and Technology Committee

In Support of SB570, An Act Concerning Electric Savings And Fixed Bill Fees, and related bills capping the fixed charge for customers of electric distribution companies

Submitted by: David Schonfeld  
February 21, 2015

Senator Paul Doyle, Representative Lonnie Reed, and distinguished members of the committee:

In 2013, I installed 38 PV panels on my roof in West Hartford. Even though my wife and I are in our late 60s, this made sense, when we extrapolated current charges into the near future. The decision of CL&P (aka Eversource) to significantly increase its fixed charge significantly upsets my calculus.

I am writing to support passage of legislation that would lower and cap the fixed charge for electric service for residential customers at \$10 per month and for small business customers at \$25 per month. Connecticut's residential customers now pay the highest (\$19.25/month; Eversource) and second highest (\$17.25/month; UI) monthly fixed charge for any major electric utility in the region. Eversource's Connecticut small business customers have seen fixed charges jump nearly 80% since 2007 (increasing from about \$25/month to \$44.50/month).

Higher fixed charges work against the state's commitment to energy efficiency and solar programs, slow the growth of a green jobs economy, and hit hardest those who can least afford to pay.

High fixed charges for electricity are unfair and regressive.

High fixed charges interfere with energy efficiency and clean energy goals.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David Schonfeld

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