

Shaiken, Benjamin

From: JoAnne Bauer Ph.D. <makingfun@msn.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 2:38 PM
To: ETTestimony
Cc: Sen. Coleman, Eric; MattRitter
Subject: SB 928: An Act Concerning Shared Clean Energy Facilities

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March 15, 2015

Dear Committee Chairs Senator Doyle and Representative Reed and Members:

As a member of Peoples Action for Clean Energy (PACE), I am writing to ask your support in expanding access to renewable energy -- like solar PV -- to all Connecticut families and businesses through **creation of a shared renewable energy program.**

I urge your support of SB 928. Shared renewable energy will empower renters and many others to choose solar and wind for the first time and will save consumers money, as well as potentially unleashing significant private investment into the state's growing clean energy economy.

Solar and other renewable energy options are already delivering tremendous benefits across Connecticut, but the traditional panels-on-your-roof model simply does not work for the majority of energy consumers. due to trees shading their roofs. In order to deliver the economic development that clean energy has offers to every corner of the state, **we need to create a shared renewable energy program.**

A well-designed shared renewables program can also help low- and moderate-income families, as well as individuals and businesses access the benefits of clean energy. Renewable energy can help consumers to stabilize and reduce their energy bills, which is all the more important for low- and moderate-income communities where utility bills make up a much larger portion of their expenses.

By expanding the market for renewable energy to the majority of energy consumers, Connecticut can also multiply economic benefits. The solar industry alone has added around 500 jobs in the past year, and each new installation leads to investment in the local economy and long term energy savings to local consumers.

A shared renewable energy program is critical to delivering the promise of clean energy to everyone in Connecticut; therefore

I urge you to please support SB 928.

Thank you.

JoAnne Bauer
25 North Beacon St
Hartford Ct 06105