

Dear Energy Committee,

I write as a citizen of Connecticut and as a father who is deeply concerned about the state of our climate. The science is clear, and there can be no doubt that climate change is indeed a true crisis. The moral responsibility lies on all of us to move as swiftly as possible in switching to a low-carbon-emitting existence; on the personal, local, state, and national levels. I do what I can in my personal life, and I hope you do as well. I ask you here, however, to act on the state level, in the interests of the people of Connecticut to safeguard their future and avoid the myriad negative effects of climate change: not limited to flooding, storms, heat waves, spread of tropical diseases, and rising sea levels, along with the enormous financial costs that will result.

Specifically, I ask you to move shared-solar forward in CT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

I would like to purchase solar energy but like many, my roof is too shady. If given the opportunity I would IMMEDIATELY buy shared solar to power my house and my electric Nissan LEAF to lower my carbon footprint, to do my part. Please do your part, and make it possible for me to do this.

It is my understanding that the bill HB-5427 as it stands is not a step in the right direction as an improvement on Public Act 15-113 which established the shared solar pilot program. Changes necessary to make the program economically viable should be made. Public act 15-113 should be immediately implemented, and we must move immediately beyond the 'pilot' phase.

The time to act boldly is now. It was yesterday. It was 10 years ago. It was 20 years ago.

The energy companies have chosen to fight for their short-term interests, but all of us need a viable climate to live in, and this interest is far more fundamental to the well being of the people of this state.

Thank you,

-Justin Paglino
Guilford