

Hi,

My name is Russell Heller and I am a current freshman at Yale University and a registered voter in the state of Connecticut. I, along with dozens of other students at Yale, am very passionate about the environment and believe that shared solar is a very important piece of the puzzle for our energy future. 80% of CT residents do not have access to solar power on their roofs, and shared solar is a very sensible solution for those who are interested in investing in clean energy and offsetting their typical high-carbon energy use.

I believe that:

- 1) The current pilot program is already delayed and inadequate and must be improved.
  - 2) HB 5427 cannot be passed in its current form.
  - 3) Subsection (d), which limits project financing to only 15 years, must be changed to 25-30 years (the useful life of the equipment), or else these projects will be financially unviable
  - 4) A pilot program that is uneconomic for solar companies will limit implementation and create far fewer jobs than would be available with a workable project financing timeline
  - 5) Public Act 15-113 should be implemented immediately and the state should establish a full-scale shared solar program, without limiting the number of projects or total megawatts, as soon as possible
  - 6) Connecticut could drop the pilot program now and authorize unlimited shared solar.
- There was no need for a pilot in 2014, less need in 2015, and even less today

If all of these thoughts are taken into consideration, I believe that Connecticut will be a better state with a stronger economy built on stable, high paying renewable energy jobs that will only become more secure and vital as dirty energy sources are phased out.

Thank you!

Best,  
Russell Heller