



The Energy and Technology Committee

Public Hearing, March 4, 2021

Office of Consumer Counsel

Richard E. Sobolewski, Acting Consumer Counsel

Testimony of Richard E. Sobolewski

S.B. No. 951

An Act Concerning Residential Solar Photovoltaic Systems Solicitations

In my capacity as Acting Consumer Counsel and head of the Office of Consumer Counsel (OCC), I have reviewed Senate Bill No. 951, *An Act Concerning Residential Solar Photovoltaic Systems Solicitations*. OCC **supports** the Bill.

The OCC is concerned about the current lack of consumer protection standards as to residential solar system sales, which have the potential to raise many of the same issues as the OCC has identified and advocated against in the context of third-party electric supplier solicitations. For example, there appears to be the potential for consumer confusion as to the identity of the party with whom they are contracting; the terms and conditions of complex contracts that will ultimately impact regulated electricity rates; and the technological capabilities of residential solar systems. The OCC supports the notion of implementing standards designed to protect consumers from potential confusion or deception and to ensure that residential solar solicitations are conducted in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

As such, OCC supports the Committee's passage of S.B. 951.