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Energy and Technology Committee
March 9, 2021
Zoom 10:30AM

In **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 993
An Act Removing The Property Tax Exemption For Solar Projects And Reclassifying The Tax Calculation Of Solar Projects On Single Parcels Of Land

Chairman Needleman, Chairman Arconti, and distinguished members of the Energy and Technology Committee, I am here to testify in **support** of Senate Bill 993, *An Act Removing The Property Tax Exemption For Solar Projects And Reclassifying The Tax Calculation Of Solar Projects On Single Parcels Of Land*.

My name is Cathy Osten and I represent the 19th Senate District, which includes the towns of Columbia, Franklin, Hebron, Lebanon, Ledyard, Lisbon, Marlborough, Montville, Norwich, and Sprague. I would like to thank the chairs for considering this important legislation for the third consecutive session.

Renewable energy source tax incentives have the ability to help our environment and the general public. Public Act 18-50 established such incentives to encourage renewable energy sources. As a matter of fact, I would like to see more incentives and increase the number of megawatts offered under such incentives. However, this law also created a loophole that has allowed commercial solar facilities to avoid paying municipal property taxes. This legislation seeks to clarify that certain solar entities will be subject to municipal taxation. By passing this legislation, we can fix this loophole and bring relief to municipalities that host said commercial facilities.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in **support** of Senate Bill 993. I look forward to working with the leadership and members of this committee on this bill's passage.