



Philadelphia Solar Energy Association 7821 Flourtown Ave, Wyndmoor, PA 19038 [www.phillysolar.org](http://www.phillysolar.org)

Representative Brad Roae, Chairman  
House Consumer Affairs Committee  
Harrisburg, PA. 17120  
Honorable Representative Roae:

August 30, 2020

Community solar, as defined in HB 531, is the best way to make affordable solar energy accessible to all Pennsylvanians. By enabling Pennsylvanians to share the energy produced from a large system, community solar eliminates current barriers and brings down the cost of solar, giving consumers additional choice. Currently 70 percent of Pennsylvanians cannot access solar energy due to shady roofs, they may rent, or may not have access to financing. Community solar would expand access and allow all Pennsylvanians the opportunity to subscribe to solar energy systems.

Community solar is also a powerful job creator and can be a critical part of Pennsylvania's economic recovery in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

#### BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY SOLAR

- Creates opportunities for **ALL** Pennsylvania residents to **choose** solar energy.
- Allows low and moderate income citizens, renters, and those unable to install solar energy on their own homes or businesses the choice to participate in Pennsylvania's growing solar marketplace.
- Creates jobs statewide, growing PA's solar industry, which already has more than 3,000 full-time jobs.
- Is a cash crop, providing a much needed new source of rental income to farmers
- Increases clean energy production during peak demand periods when electricity is most needed.
- Contributes to PA's goal of providing a cleaner, healthier and safer environment for all its residents.
- Improves grid reliability, and resilience.

The Philadelphia Solar Energy Association urges you to support HB 531 and to pass it into law as soon as possible. Please include this written testimony in the public record of the Hearing on September 1, 2020 and include it in the packet provided to Committee members. Thank you,

Sincerely,

Liz Robinson  
Executive Director