



Good afternoon, Committee Members

Support for SB613

My name is Kimberly Armstrong I'm the Program Director with Solar United Neighbors a Non-profit that assist with helping people go solar. Although we help homeowners with rooftop solar we also educate about community solar.

I'm a current subscriber of community solar therefore I'm also speaking as a participant and how it has reduced my utility bill at least by thirty-forty dollars a month, and sure it may not seem like a lot but as a parent with a young daughter and grandson still living at home that extra money could mean gas in the car or food on the table.

Personally there has been several times when I had to use subsidies such as energy assistance to help with my utilities why because I was considered the working poor now it has a fancier name Low-Moderate Income (LMI) and many people today are still in this category if not more than before. I'm saying this because energy is a necessity and we all need it however it is more of a financial burden for almost 40% of Marylanders. And Community Solar is an opportunity to 1) reduce our energy bills and 2) allow all Marylanders to participate in clean energy while doing good for themselves and the environment.

Community solar allows for everyone to participate in clean energy therefore, I'm in support of making it a permanent program.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Armstrong

Maryland Program Director/Advocate

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