



# THE COMMISSIONERS OF THURMONT

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**Written Testimony from  
John A. Kinnaird  
Senate Bill 53  
Clean Energy Attribute Credits and Procurement**

**Position: Support**

Dear Chairman Kelley and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is John A. Kinnaird, the Mayor of Thurmont, and I wish to offer the support of the Town of Thurmont and our residents for Clean Energy Attribute Credits and Procurement legislation through Senate Bill 53 in the current 2021 session.

The Town of Thurmont has a long history of providing electric service to our residents stretching back over a hundred years. The Thurmont Municipal Light Company was established by a group of concerned businessmen intent on bringing the wonder of the modern age, electricity, to our community. The initial service was powered by a purpose-built hydro dam that turned generator sets in our generating station. The system was so successful that over a relatively short period of time we began purchasing power on the wholesale market and we continue to do so today.

A portion of the wholesale power purchased by Thurmont comes from renewable resources. Due to the relatively small size of our municipality, providing electricity to fewer than 2,500 homes, the cost of green energy for the Town often comes at a premium relative to the much larger Investor Owned Utilities in the state. This is the result of current markets for procuring sustainable power favoring those utilities that can benefit from their enormous economies of scale. Senate Bill 53 aims to address this disparity in renewable energy pricing by developing market structures to promote competition and grant equal access to Clean Energy Attribute Credits.

As such, Thurmont supports Senate Bill 53 and advocates for a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Kinnaird".

John A. Kinnaird  
Mayor  
Town of Thurmont