



Cancer Support Foundation, Inc.
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Finance Committee

HB818 heard in Senate Finance

Support

March 30, 2022

Cindy Carter
Cancer Support Foundation, inc.

Good afternoon chairman Wilson and committee. I am Cindy Carter Co-Founder of the Critical Medical Needs Program and Executive Director of Cancer Support Foundation. I am here today in favor of HB 818.

The billing system of utility companies already have the billing system in place to bill clients for third party chargers of electric and gas commodity. It has been there for years.

The Community Solar Program has carved out a segment for those who are low-income residents These same customers may also be eligible for the several energy assistance grants to help with their energy costs on their household.

The solar part of your monthly cost, is not on your utility bill as it would be if you were working with a third-party supplier. Your energy assistance grants that are available each year, then cannot be applied towards those costs.

Forty one percent of those who are eligible for these energy assistance grants are seniors. If we are trying to keep our seniors safely aging in place by helping with controlling or reducing their energy burden, then not being able to use these grants each year seems very counterproductive.



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If a senior was using a third-party supplier, they would be able to use the grants. If that same senior got involved in the Community Solar Program, they would lose the grants to help reduce their energy costs. This practice is harming our low-income seniors as well as others.

Many of our low-income families are seniors. They could benefit from all programs that could help reduce their energy burden. A billing system already exists to include other vendors bills so why not help our seniors age safely in place by allowing the billing for Community Solar to be included on the bill and allowing the energy assistance grants be applied towards that cost.

I am asking for a favorable report on HB 818.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cindy Carter". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Cindy Carter
Co-Founder Critical medical Needs Program
Executive Director Cancer Support Foundation, Inc.