

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman  
Chair, Senate Education Energy & Environment Committee  
2 West Miller State Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Jack Levenson Written Testimony  
Director of Business Development Edge Energy  
6854 Distribution Dr, Beltsville, MD 20705

RE: Senate Bill 416: Renewable Energy – Customer-Sited Solar Program  
FAVORABLE

My name is Jack Levenson, Director of Business Development for Edge Energy, and it is an honor to provide favorable testimony on Senate Bill 416, Renewable Energy – Customer-Sited Solar Program.

Edge Energy was established in 2006 and has been supporting low-to-moderate income programs since 2009. Based in Beltsville, we have assisted over 3,000 Maryland residents in reducing their energy burden through Energy Efficiency upgrades and installed and/or serviced almost 6000 residential rooftop solar systems. Our workforce of nearly 50 full time employees (and even more part time) is comprised of skilled professionals including Master, Journeyman, and Apprentice HVAC and Electrical professionals, as well as BPI-certified Energy Auditors and Weatherization Technicians. We are also very proud that 30% of our staff have been with us for over 10 years.

Before I became involved in the local Maryland solar industry in 2009, I was living in Virginia and was a former Middle School teacher and Peace Corps (Ecuador) Volunteer. The entire reason I left Virginia was because of the better climate for solar jobs here in Maryland.

I am here to provide favorable testimony on SB416 because this will help me focus more of my business on LMI households. We are very proud of the work that we have done, but as I'm sure you can imagine, larger projects can translate into overall lower costs because of economies of scale. When families have less money, they often have smaller roofs that also often require more work to upgrade to be solar ready. This bill will help to proportionately make it much more affordable for homes in need to go solar, cutting energy bills very dramatically.

It has always been my mission to serve my community regardless of economic level and these bills will go a long way to helping that as well as growing our local jobs.

Thank you for your time and support of SB416.