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## TESTIMONY **IN FAVOR** OF SB0341

### **Public Utilities - Solar Energy Generating Systems and Solar Renewable Energy Credits (Affordable Solar Act)**

**Bill Sponsor:** Senator Brooks  
**Committee:** Education, Energy, and the Environment  
**Position:** FAVORABLE

I strongly support SB0341, the Affordable Solar Act. For my children and all future generations, I am greatly concerned about the state of our planet and the impacts of climate change. Using clean, free solar energy is a wise society's solution to solving climate change. The rapid increase in use of solar energy gives me hope, however, in Maryland the way the system is working needs some tweaks.

In particular, this bill will fight back against the federal administration's attempts to destabilize the market, which will cause utility bills to rise in Maryland and across the country. The Affordable Solar Act reforms Maryland's Solar Renewable Energy Credit (SREC) program to ensure each solar project gets the exact incentive it needs to ensure construction.

It also authorizes plug-in, portable solar, as well as ensures ratepayer money designated for solar is used for solar instead of non-clean-energy uses such as balancing budget deficits. My house in Takoma Park doesn't get enough sun to make large rooftop panels make sense, but a smaller, plug-in system might work for me, as it might work for people who rent homes and apartments. I am excited about this possibility and about the other improvements that would be made possible by this legislation.