



Senator Brian Feldman, Chair
Senator Cheryl Kagan, Vice Chair
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Senate Bill 341: Affordable Solar Act - FAVORABLE

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan and Members of the Committee,

The Maryland Rooftop Solar Coalition (MRSC) appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 341. MRSC is a coalition of a dozen national, regional, and local companies committed to growing Maryland's rooftop solar market. Our members are creating durable jobs and helping Marylanders reduce and manage their electricity bills with home solar and storage systems.

Residential solar accounts for over 1/3 of the deployed solar in our state. It is an integral part of our state's response to climate change, and particularly when paired with storage, can reduce strain on the grid from electrification. In other climate-leading states that have proper policy structures, residential rooftop solar provides a cornerstone for building their clean energy economy, steadily deploying megawatts of solar each year. As with other home improvement industries, the jobs created by rooftop solar are inherently local, stable and family-sustaining.

Although Maryland's Solar Renewable Energy Credit (SREC) market has been successful in deploying residential solar to date, the structure of this incentive program does not allow for adjustments as the market adjusts nor does it account for the inherent differences between solar market segments. Indeed, it requires a 10kW residential system to compete with a 10,000kW community solar system or a 100,000kW utility scale system. The direction taken by the Affordable Solar Act is the correct one – it differentiates the incentive structure based on the market segment – allowing the Maryland Public Utility Commission to 'right size' the incentives delivered to each solar system as well as reducing financial risk inherent in the SREC market – and therefore overall costs to ratepayers.

The Maryland Rooftop Solar Coalition urges a favorable report on SB 341.

Sincerely,

Katie Rever
katie.rever@igs.com
Treasurer, MRSC