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February 24, 2021

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon
Chair, House Committee on Corporations
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

Re: SUPPORT for Community Solar Legislation - House Bill No. 5327 by Potter, Baginski, Felix, Batista, Ruggiero, Speakman, Knight, Kislak, Shallcross Smith, Fogarty

To Chairman Solomon:

Please consider this written testimony in support of community solar legislation that would take an important step forward for Community Solar in Rhode Island.

My company, Green Seal Environmental, Inc. is an environmental engineering firm and solar EPC in RI and MA. We support this legislation because it will increase access for residents to affordably power their homes from a clean, renewable source and support the fight against climate change.

The primary purpose of community solar, which was passed into law in 2016 by the General Assembly, is to allow members of a community the opportunity to share the benefits (savings on their electricity bill and powering their household by clean energy) of solar power even if they cannot install solar panels on their property. As Rhode Island continues to move forward toward its clean energy goals by 2020 and beyond, we believe that this legislation is a critical step in that it will allow all Rhode Islanders – whether renter or owner, whether rich or poor – to be a part of our clean energy future.

Thank you in advance for considering this important proposal and please do not hesitate to reach out if we can provide any additional information to your committee.

Sincerely Yours,

Karen Gent
Green Seal Environmental, Inc

cc: Representative William W. O'Brien, First Vice Chair
Representative Justine A. Caldwell, Second Vice Chair
Representative Stephen M. Casey
Representative Michael W. Chippendale
Representative Barbara Ann Fenton-Fung Member
Representative Bernard A. Hawkins Member
Representative Katherine S. Kazarian
Representative Brian Patrick Kennedy
Representative Charlene Lima
Representative Steven J. Lima

Representative Robert D. Phillips
Representative Brandon C. Potter
Representative Patricia A. Serpa
Representative Mary Ann Shallcross Smith