



MA, Master Electric Contractor # 4434 A1  
MA, Home Improvement Contractor # 170355  
Rhode Island Contractors' Registration and Licensing Board Registration No. 39372  
Rhode Island Renewable Energy Prof REPC-126  
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April 24, 2025

House Corporations Committee  
State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 0293

**RE: H5580 – AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS – NET METERING**

Dear Chairman Solomon and members of the House Corporations Committee,

Trinity Solar (Trinity) appreciates the opportunity to provide written comments on H5580. Our company has been actively engaged in the Rhode Island residential solar market since 2015 and has a warehouse in North Kingstown. House Bill 5580, as written, would have negative implications to the RI solar industry and we urge the Committee to oppose this bill as drafted. Please find below our comments on certain sections of this proposed legislation.

1) Page 3, Line 18, (6) "Eligible net-metering system":

Currently, net-metering (NEM) is measured by the three-year average annual consumption of energy over the previous three years or if not available, a projected annual consumption until three-year data becomes available. **We support the proposed language of, "For any system with a nameplate capacity equal to or less than twenty-five kilowatts (25 kW), eligibility shall not be restricted based on prior consumption."** This change introduces much-needed flexibility for residential customers, allowing them to size their systems appropriately based on need. It's a sensible update that removes a barrier and better aligns with state goals to expand access to clean energy

2) Page 4, Line 31, (8) "Excess renewable net-metering credits":

We strongly disagree with this bill section as written as it pertains to excess renewable net-metering credits being valued at the wholesale electricity rate as this provision change will undervalue the excess generated energy. A major factor homeowners take into consideration when choosing to go solar is the ability to reduce the cost of their electricity. One of those valuable incentives is a homeowner's ability to rely on credited production to offset usage during the fall/winter months, and the payout a customer can receive for production not consumed. The remaining kWh should be credited to the customer at value that is fair, rather than the currently drafted "wholesale rate".

HB 5580 as drafted would diminish incentives which customers' balance in their decision to go solar and change the current NEM structure that RI solar customers rely on already. We should continue to sustain net-metering and provide an incentive to our state citizens that allows them to find relief with the ever-growing electric rates. Trinity appreciates the opportunity to provide comments to the

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Committee and would be happy to work with Committee members on amendments to this Bill. Thank you for your continued efforts in Rhode Island's renewable energy market.

Respectfully,

Chelsea Farrell  
Policy and Legislative Associate