

HouseCorporations@rilegislature.gov

Subject: **Support for S2658 (Plug-in solar).**

From: Barbara K. Sullivan Watts

2 Locust Drive, Kingston, RI

Dear Chair Sosnowski and members of the Committee, I am submitting testimony in support of H7269 for Portable Solar Generation Devices.

As State Coordinator for the Rhode Island Chapter of Citizens Climate Lobby I represent our 800+ members in their concerns about reducing the polluting emissions from burning fossil fuels that cause climate change as well as contribute to health problems including asthma. This law provides an accessible, affordable, and DIY-friendly way for homeowners and renters to lower electricity bills, fight rising utility rates, and use clean energy. Bringing a solar panel into one's home is a first class lesson in the how and why of renewable energy. It will more broadly engage the public with the value of solar power.

Putting on my educator's hat (many years of teaching at Providence College and URI) I am struck by the opportunity that plug in solar provides to educate the public about solar – once a simple form of it enters your home I think the appeal of solar will become obvious!

At a recent meeting of members of Citizens Climate Lobby there was great enthusiasm for this bill. Utah became the first U.S. state to pass such legislation last year. Similar bills are currently pending in 25 states. This bill allows Rhode Island to join them.

Please pass it!

Sincerely,

Barbara K. Sullivan Watts

State Coordinator, Rhode Island Citizens Climate Lobby