



Testimony on HB 2745
House Committee on Energy and Environment
Tuesday, March 3, 2015

ON BEHALF OF COMMUNITY RENEWABLE ENERGY ASSOCIATION
Brian Skeahan, Executive Director

HB 2745 represents an important statement by the Oregon Legislature that consumers and small commercial entities generating relatively small amounts of electricity for their own use continue to be a part of the renewable energy generation discussion in Oregon, and are reflective on the State's values regarding energy and the environment.

When first instituted, this program reached its capacity almost immediately, showing that individual Oregonians are interested and willing to do their part toward clean energy generation. The current solar pilot winds down this June. The Community Renewable Energy Association believes **extension of the program is critical for continued installation of solar in the medium-scale and commercial market.**

The Community Renewable Energy Association (CREA) is an organization made up of public and private members that speak on behalf of community scale renewable energy opportunities. CREA supports effective public policies that allow all forms of renewable energy, including solar, to flourish. This organization and its members hopes to be part of the legislative discussion on HB 2745, extending the sunset for the "pilot" program, thereby expanding the amount of renewable energy generated over future years as a result of this program.

As the cost of solar generation continues to decline (while environmental benefits increase) the cost to all ratepayers for the energy resulting from this initiative is worthwhile to all Oregonians.