



TESTIMONY ON HB 2941-A  
Tuesday, March 3, 2015  
House Committee on Energy and Environment

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

Community Renewable Energy Association (CREA) supports the proposal in HB 2941.

HB 2941 is an important attempt to create in Oregon's electric generation portfolio another step between individual generation and utility -scale generation. The "community solar garden" allows 10 or more individuals, in accordance with Oregon Public Utility Commission guidelines, to create and benefit from solar energy generation projects, under agreements with electric utilities. Renewable Energy certificates associated with a utility's procurement of energy from a community solar garden project would be transferred to the utility, which could then use them for compliance with Oregon's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS). Participants in a "community solar garden" would both receive the financial benefits of distributed renewable energy, and contribute towards their utility's compliance with the state's renewable energy goals.

The Community Renewable Energy Association (CREA) is an ORS 190 entity that bans together public and private members to advocate public policies that support community-scale renewable energy development of all resources. We support projects ranging from kilowatt size up to 20 megawatts that provide for local ownership, locally generated support services and allied organizations that benefit from the development on an ongoing basis. Solar energy development by its very nature is mostly community scale, and can create important economic benefits in many areas of the state.

