Evan Ramsey
<u>LRO</u>
HB 2681 RETC Extension
Friday, June 02, 2017 8:47:12 AM

Dear Member of the Joint Tax Credit Committee,

Thank you for your work and consideration of the extension of the RETC. I have worked in the solar industry for over a decade and seen the benefits of the Oregon RETC realized through friends, family, customers, and colleagues. This essential incentive has helped grow a vital industry which provides social, economic, and environmental benefits that <u>exclusively</u> serve Oregonians. Most importantly RETC is leveraged by Federal tax credits, and utility rebates, which combined, bring tremendous economic resources to Oregon homeowners that will provide ongoing energy savings for 25 plus years. This is a critical investment we must make now, and the reduction or removal of any one of these funding sources will severely hamper a nascent industry, and negatively impact the 4500 jobs in the Oregon solar industry. These are good paying jobs with an industry of passionate, motivated people that would most certainly lose out in the event the RETC expires.

This extension is especially timely as our Federal government backs out of the Paris Accord and seeks regressive climate and clean energy policies. Now more than ever, Oregon State policies are <u>critical</u> not only our environment but to the economic health of our citizens and businesses.

Thank you so much for your work to improve the lives of Oregonian, and I can assure you that the extension of this successful policy will do just that.

Sincerely,

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