



Premier Solar NW
12399 NW Waker Dr
Portland OR, 97229

To members of the Committee,

We are a small, Portland based solar installation company and have been in business since 2011. The recent loss of specific solar incentives in Oregon have negatively impacted Premier Solar NW and solar companies like ours- the often-volatile business atmosphere has been thrown into even further stress as we scramble to entice customers to install solar without the incentives Oregon once enjoyed.

Our company has installed over 650 systems since we first went into business 8 years ago- that is, on average, 1.5 systems per week. With the current incentives, and the loss of incentives in January 2018 in Washington, we're scrambling to complete a system once every two weeks. We love working in the solar industry in Oregon because the generally positive attitude people have towards renewable energy and because the past incentives have made the business here lucrative, but if Oregon does not reinstate incentives in the near future, it will make it extremely hard to continue doing solar in this state, which could lead to more job loss and would negatively impact Oregon's local economy.

We're urging support of HB 2618, which will create a rebate for rooftop solar and allow for folks from many demographics to install solar and enjoy the benefits of renewable energy. Over the years, we have gotten wonderful responses from past customers about their reduced electricity bills, how fast they're able to pay off their systems because of past incentives, and their excitement about supporting an industry that does good for the environment.

We love working in solar because we're selling something that is an excellent investment for home and business owners, and when people invest in solar, they're contributing directly to the local economy by supporting a local business. When families install solar, they greatly reduce their power bills (sometimes to almost \$0) and oftentimes can pay off their system in 7-8 years. Furthermore, based on Department of Energy studies, solar systems add huge value to houses when it comes time to resell, since the lifetime of the system is often more than 25 years.

Solar businesses in Oregon are often like ours with small operations, providing family-wage jobs with good benefits to Oregonians, in an industry that will benefit our state's climate future. The solar industry in Oregon and the rest of the PNW would not be as strong as it is without help from past incentives.

HB 2618 is especially exciting because of its focus on low-income rate payers, who would not be able to afford solar without help from a rebate. This rebate program would be one of the first of its kind and would put Oregon on the map as a climate justice leader. We are proud to support a bill that incorporates not only environmental sustainability goals, but also considers the sustainability of our state's economy and people.

HB 2618 will restart the struggling solar industry in Oregon, will be accessible to anyone in the state, and will greatly help small businesses such as Premier Solar NW. We strongly urge you to support HB 2618!

Thank you,

Premier Solar NW