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Members of the Energy and Environment Committee,

I would like to ask for your support on HB2618. I own Mayfield Renewables, based out of Corvallis. My business is focused on the design of solar electric systems and employs six full time and two part time staff.

In 2017, we had our best year in our (then) ten-year history. That was largely helped by the solar design work we were doing in Oregon that year. In 2018, business slowed down significantly and I can directly point to the loss of the RETC for that slow down. Fortunately, I was able to keep all my staff last year but it was at the expense of local work as we had to focus on projects in other states. In a few weeks, I will lose one of my employees and at this time, I'm uncertain if I will be able to replace him. If I do, I will likely look outside of Oregon for employees who can be closer to the work.

HB2618 would be beneficial to my business and give me the confidence to hire at least one, if not two, additional staff locally. Our clients consistently ask us about the financial feasibility of PV systems for their homes and businesses. This rebate would very likely be the last bit of incentive a customer would need to go solar. In addition, we have received unprecedented requests for information around battery storage to add to the customers' PV systems for resiliency in the case of extended outages. These systems are becoming more common and effective for residential and business customers.

I have been active in the solar industry since 1999 with the majority of that here in Oregon (since 2002). Our local solar industry has always been a bright spot in our state and local economies. I'd appreciate your support to help return us to the thriving industry we can and should be.

Ryan Mayfield