



Senate Committee on Energy and the Environment
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

February 18, 2026

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice-chair Brock-Smith and members of the committee,

The Oregon Solar + Storage Industries Association (OSSIA) is a trade association founded in 1981 to promote clean, renewable, solar technologies. OSSIA members include businesses, non-profits, and other solar and storage stakeholders. We provide a unified voice of the solar industry and focus exclusively on the solar and storage value chains; from workforce development to permitting, advocacy, policy, and regulation for manufacturing, residential, commercial, community, and utility scale solar and storage projects on the local, state, and regional level.

OSSIA strongly supports HB 4029 and recommends the addition of a small amendment to strengthen the bill. HB 4029 seeks to create consumer protections for residential solar customers and has both the support of industry and of consumer protection groups.

Most of us, including me, have seen ads for “free solar” or had someone knock on your door, promising all sorts of things. While some of these folks are giving accurate information, others are promising things that do not match up with what the homeowner ends up receiving. HB 4029 will prevent that mismatch of what is promised and what is received by creating a new disclosure form, in plain English, with places for the customer to initial. The bill is similar to an existing law in Washington state, which has had success in preventing bad behavior.

Here are the highlights of HB 4029:

Section 2 – contracts may only be executed by a licensed sales agent or contractor.

Section 3 – creates a new disclosure form for residential solar systems that are sold, leased, or under a power purchase agreement. The disclosure forms includes information about the solar installer; the full price, including any fees, taxes or charges; timelines for payments and installation; detailed description of the solar system, the expected production and bill savings; warranties, tax credit and net metering information; and loan and recission details.

Section 4 – details what must be included in the solar system contract, which includes all of the above.

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Section 5 – rules regarding rescission requirements, payments, interconnection, roof repair or replacement, and liability.

Section 6, and 7 – address enforcement of the statute under Oregon's Unlawful Trade Practices Act, allowing the Attorney General to enforce it and providing a private right of action for consumer-led enforcement when individual consumers are harmed by deceptive practices or a failure to comply with the statute.

The -1 amendment includes a new addition on an issue a legislator brought to OSSIA. Solar systems, like many items that require installation, usually come with a workmanship warranty, which guarantees labor if the installation was performed incorrectly. We learned that some solar companies were not transferring the workmanship warranty to new homeowners, and were making new home buyers pay for a workmanship warranty the previous homeowner had already purchased. The -1 amendment requires those workmanship warranties to be transferable to the new homeowner.

Of all these new requirements I would like to highlight one in particular. This bill requires that all fees must be disclosed. Over the past several years we've learned that some companies were not disclosing all financing fees, which led some customers to believe that the total loan they were receiving would be much less than it turned out to be. The new disclosure form will ensure that customers are aware of the full cost of their loan, including any lender or other fees.

The solar industry supports this bill because it levels the playing field for solar companies. Not only does bad behavior make the entire industry look bad, it is hard for honest companies to compete with companies who are not giving customers the entire truth. This is especially true in a time of market contraction like we are in currently, due to federal solar tax credits expiring. We want customers to be able to trust the industry and we want every company to play by the same rules.

OSSIA appreciates Rep. Lively for convening an excellent work group to create this bill over a year ago. We are happy to report that the bill received a unanimous vote on the House floor. We urge your support of this bill that protects both the solar industry and our customers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Crowley-Koch".

Angela Crowley-Koch
Executive Director