

To Whom It May Concern:

Proponent Testimony in Favor of SB 61.

I'm writing to urge you to support SB 61 and offer proponent testimony. This bill provides common-sense protections and updates for homeowners who live in UOA's and HOA's. Additionally, this will add protections to owners who want to install solar panels. Between 21%-30% of all home owning Ohioans live under some form of HOA governance. All homeowners should have the right to install solar. Unfortunately, many HOAs make this impossible. They impose unfair restrictions on homeowners that want to go solar. This could include limits on size or how the array is designed. These restrictions can restrict solar in a way that makes systems uneconomical.

Putting this law on the books will reduce the need for expensive litigation between homeowners and HOAs. Solar energy helps Ohioans save money, creates Ohio Jobs, and get the freedom to choose where their electricity comes from.

This legislation makes sense from a practical standpoint on updating regulations by allowing email as a form of communicating with owners, protecting Ohioans under HOA's by upping insurance requirements and defining the minimum reserve funds, and creating jobs by allowing access to solar energy systems.

Thanks,  
James Smith  
President, Board of Directors  
HCCA (Opinions are my own)