

June 12, 2019

RE: Increasing the State Tax Credit for Residential Solar Energy

Dear Speaker Heastie:

We write to strongly express support for passage of Bill S.752/A.6420 to increase the tax credit for solar energy equipment, raising it to \$10,000 from \$5,000 for projects placed in service on or after September 1, 2019.

Solar energy is a key technology for controlling air pollution and protecting public health in New York. It is also an important part of our response to climate change. Yet the cost to purchase and install solar energy often remains higher than many New Yorkers can afford. By reducing these costs, we will expand access to this technology that is critical to achieving our emissions reduction goals such as those outlined in the Climate and Community Protection Act, and greatly accelerate the transition to a clean energy economy.

If passed, this bill would allow New Yorkers who place solar energy equipment on their property on or after September 1, 2019 to claim the 25 percent personal income tax credit up to \$10,000. This bill is a simple extension of a law that effectively compensates New Yorkers who take the initiative to purchase clean energy.

Bill S.752/A.6420 will also benefit businesses across New York State. The solar industry is at the vanguard of job creation in New York, employing nearly 10,000 workers with job growth of 8 percent in 2018. Vote Solar estimates that another 11,000 jobs would be created by Governor Cuomo's proposal to transition to 100 percent clean energy by 2040.

But the state cannot fully decarbonize on its own—the transition to clean energy requires participation from home and building owners across New York. By making it more financially viable to install solar, this expanded tax credit will incentivize the development of thousands of solar projects, and make it possible for New York to reach its clean energy goals.

For these reasons, we strongly encourage swift passage of Bill S.752/A.6420 to increase the state tax credit for residential solar energy.

Sincerely,

Brooklyn SolarWorks
EmPower Solar
Freedom Solar
GreenLogic Energy
Harvest Power
Horizon Solar
Hytech Solar

Long Island Solar Energy Industries Association (LISEIA)
New York Solar Energy Industries Association (NYSEIA)
New York State Solar
New York State Solar Farm
Premier Power Solutions
Revolution Solar
Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA)
Sunrun
Venture Solar

cc: The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo