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From: Kate <katysmith1@protonmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 10:52 AM
To: Senate Labor and Commerce
Subject: Community Solar SB 152

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Good morning,

My name is Katy Smith. I'm a registered nurse living in Anchorage, AK. I would love if your committee moved forward with SB 152.

Amidst growing energy demands for our state and the goals to find greener solutions, I believe moving forward with SB 152 can help meet the needs of many Alaskans. As we turn to find solutions to the dwindling natural gas supply, it's important to diversify our energy resources. We cannot continue to be reliant on finite resources.

Instead of stuffing pockets for businesses outside of our state, or even our country, we should invest in Community Solar as an economic investment for Alaskans. Passing SB 152 will help Alaskans to keep our energy profits within our community. In addition to this, SB 152 will propagate our state's economy by creating jobs to meet solar demand, not only for solar installation and the building of infrastructure but for the continued maintenance of such infrastructure.

Finally, expanding our energy choices for renters makes Alaska a more incentivizing place to live. With the current housing market and the high rate of renting, it would be a huge perk to be able to make greener choices as a renter - I speak here from personal experience as a current renter.

I urge your committee to strongly consider the benefits of passing SB 152. I imagine there will be pushback and de-centivization from larger energy operations, but diversification of resources and creating opportunities for Alaskans is too big a benefit to ignore. I do not suspect that the addition of Community Solar will greatly affect larger energy operations, and I hope that your committee will stand up for a greener Alaska.

Thank you,
Katy Smith