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

February 4, 2026

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

My name is Paul N. Israel, President. We are 19 strong serving Central, Oregon since the inception of the solar electric industry in the U.S. We focus on Commercial and Residential solar in the high desert.

As you may know, solar small businesses in Oregon are struggling right now with the end of the Federal residential solar tax credit. The solar industry will rebound, but new market opportunities will be key to our industry's success. We are budgeting for a 30% reduction in sales and our workforce by the end of 2026.

Community-based power, also known as virtual power plants, will support our industry and our customers who have been wanting to add battery storage to their home. Approximately 20% of our new customers have added a battery back-up system with solar. However, the costs are still too high for many middle- and moderate-income homes. The incentives in community-based power would help make battery storage a reality for more Oregonians.

We urge you to vote for SB 1582 in order to support Oregon small businesses, our customers, and the electric grid.

Sincerely,

Paul N. Israel, President
02/06/2026

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