

Kansas House Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications Committee

Written Testimony in **Support of HB 2227 – Third-Party Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) Bill**

Dear Committee Members,

I am a resident of Wichita, KS. As a Catholic, a father of five kids and a veteran, it is very important to me that churches, schools and military installations have the opportunity to install solar at competitive rates to save limited funds and be good stewards of God's creation.

I was the first in my neighborhood to install rooftop solar on our own home in Wichita, KS in the fall of 2021. As I was doing my research on solar, I was surprised to read that while Kansas is one of the top 10 sunniest states in the country, Kansas is one of only 7 states that doesn't allow PPAs by providers other than the monopoly utility, making it difficult for churches, schools and military installations to achieve much-needed cost savings from a competitive rate structure. As a result, Kansas ranked a dismal 43 out of 50 states in solar generation in 2020, with only 0.23% of the state's electricity coming from solar (<https://energycentral.com/news/kansas-state-full-sun-so-why-does-kansas-lag-behind-solar-power>).

In Virginia, where my family and I used to live before moving to Kansas, a number of churches have installed solar using PPAs and are achieving significant cost savings. For example, as reported in the July, 2020 edition of the Catholic Herald (<https://www.catholicherald.com/article/local/three-parishes-go-solar/>), the Church of the Nativity in the Diocese of Arlington, VA installed a solar system that will eliminate 7,700 metric tons of carbon dioxide pollution, produce 91,000 kilowatts of electricity and save about \$200,000 over a 20 year period, according to the pastor Father Robert Cilinski.

I am testifying in **Support of HB 2227** for the following reasons:

- Puts Kansas in line with 43 other states, making Kansas a more desirable place to live
- Enables military installations to install what they need with no size limit
- Provides more choice in the marketplace for churches, schools and other customers seeking ways to reduce their energy costs
- Removes government-imposed restrictions on power generation options
- Expands solar as a climate solution to reduce emissions

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony.

Sincerely,

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