

It's good news this time around. At last weeks meeting, the Natural Resources and Rural Affairs Committee, by a 6 to 0 margin, passed HB2429 solar energy taxation. Unfortunately, we had to amend the bill to remove any changes to the residential tax credit. While the bill may have gotten through the committee with the residential credit intact, it was clear that at least one Senator would have remained a serious obstacle to the bill if an uncapped tax credit remained. Fears of the alt fuel problems of a few years ago are continuing to haunt us. We will have to wait for another legislative session in order to provide additional benefits for Arizona homeowners.

We now must focus on getting the bill "in the box" - the term used for bills that will be funded in the budget. There are millions of dollars worth of bills that are vying for funding with this years budget surplus and budget negotiations will begin soon. This has traditionally been a contentious time with negotiations between the Governor and the Legislature, but we are working on Senators to support funding for solar energy this year. Once again, we need your help to get this legislation passed.

Please contact your Senator and ask them to support HB2429. Please tell them that this measure is an investment in Arizona's economy that will also greatly benefit Arizona's air quality. It will create jobs, save money for Arizona families and businesses and provide a source of clean, nonpolluting energy. Nationally, states are developing their solar and renewable energy resources and now is the time for Arizona to act.

Below, you will find the Senate Roster. Please email your Senator asking them to support HB2429 and follow-up with a phone call. Ask them to actively work towards the passage of this bill. Also, please feel free to pass this on to those who may be interested in being heard on the development of solar energy in Arizona. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you.

Michael Neary

Arizona Solar Energy Industries Association

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Senate Roster

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