

Kansas House Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications Committee

Written Testimony in **Support of HB 2228 – Net-Metering Bill**

Dear Committee Members,

I am a resident of Wichita, KS and was the first in my neighborhood to install rooftop solar on our home in the fall of 2021. In the first year of operation after system activation, our solar system generated nearly 18,000 kWh of clean electricity, reducing strain on the grid especially in summer and diversifying energy sources, benefiting all energy consumers, not only those with rooftop solar.

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 (with solar potential comparable to Florida), our state has some of the most restrictive net-metering policies in the U.S., making it difficult for residents to choose lower-cost options. 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>).

Also, while I am currently benefitting from net metering, I am very concerned that the existing net metering act expires in 2030.

I am testifying in **Support of HB 2228** for the following reasons:

- Will ensure greater access and affordability of distributed generation systems utilizing solar and battery storage
- Gives businesses and homeowners an immediate remedy to better manage their electric energy costs and reduce their monthly bills
- Puts Kansas in line with surrounding states that offer net-metering access. This is good for business and will make it easier to attract businesses and high tech talent to Kansas to strengthen our economy.
- Expands solar as a climate solution to reduce emissions
- With such abundant solar potential, I want Kansas to be #1 in solar, not #43!

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony.

Sincerely,

Joseph Madden
8211 W. Reflection Ct.
Wichita, KS 67205
joseph.a.madden@gmail.com
(703) 328-3510