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Members of the House Committee on Energy Policy  
124 North Capitol Avenue  
Lansing MI 48933

RE: Support for HB 5861

Dear Rep. Glenn and Members of the House Committee on Energy Policy,

The [Coalition for Community Solar Access](http://communitysolaraccess.org) (CCSA) – a national business-led trade organization comprised of over 40 [members](#) at every level of the energy industry – strongly supports HB 5861, which would create a Community Renewable Energy Gardens (Community Solar) program in Michigan.

The members of CCSA represent the leading community solar providers nationwide, with experience working in over a dozen different states under a variety of policy models. This experience has provided the organization with a wealth of experience we use to evaluate proposed community solar legislation. CCSA has developed two resources for policy makers to use when designing community solar programs. The first, CCSA's [Core Principles](#), are endorsed by all CCSA members and outline the broad policies and practices that CCSA supports<sup>1</sup>. The second, CCSA's [Community Solar Policy Decision Matrix](#), provides specific recommendations to policymakers on the most effective ways to develop community solar programs<sup>2</sup>; it was last updated in December 2017. Based on these resources, CCSA supports HB 5861 and offers our assistance on discrete amendments we believe will ease the regulatory process the Public Service Commission will undertake to develop program rules.

Community solar is an important component of a state's clean energy strategy. By enabling a robust community solar program, the legislature can ensure that, for the first time, all Michigan residents will have the choice to participate in the clean energy economy and take control of their energy future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Cramer", is positioned above the printed name.

Jeff Cramer  
Executive Director  
Coalition for Community Solar Access

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<sup>1</sup> Coalition for Community Solar Access, CCSA Core Principles, <http://www.communitysolaraccess.org/about-us/ccsa-core-principles/>

<sup>2</sup> Coalition for Community Solar Access, Community Solar Policy Decision Matrix, <http://www.communitysolaraccess.org/community-solar-policy-decision-matrix-2017/>