



City of Philadelphia

City Council
Chief Clerk's Office
402 City Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19107

RESOLUTION NO. 250956

Introduced October 30, 2025

Councilmember Gauthier

RESOLUTION

Calling on the Pennsylvania State Senate to approve House Bill 304, the Community Energy Act, and the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to pass this legislation to allow for the creation of community energy programs in Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, Community energy facilities allow customers to choose the source of their electricity, including customers that desire to purchase solar energy but do not have suitable conditions to install their own solar facility; and

WHEREAS, Community solar facilities are a more decentralized, resilient, and efficient way to deliver electricity to ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, Small scale community solar facilities are designed to interconnect with local power distribution systems, reducing barriers to entry such as regional transmission approvals; and

WHEREAS, Allowing community solar facilities would create economic benefits for Pennsylvania's farmers, landowners, and homeowners with a roof or space to build or lease ground for community solar facilities; and

WHEREAS, Community solar facilities have been shown to save households 10% on their electricity costs; and

WHEREAS, A recent study from Penn State University determined that constructing the 235 community solar facilities planned in Pennsylvania could add 520 permanent jobs and \$83.3 million of annual economic activity; and

WHEREAS, Governor Shapiro has called for the creation of community energy programs as part of his Lightning Plan; and

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WHEREAS, The Community Energy Act, as proposed by Representative Peter Schweyer, which passed 114 votes to 89 votes in the Pennsylvania House, will enable the creation of community energy facilities, and is now being considered in the Pennsylvania Senate; and

WHEREAS, 24 states currently have specific enabling legislation for community solar, which provides a framework that supports the production of and streamlines approval of community energy facilities in those states; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Hereby calls on the Pennsylvania State Senate to approve House Bill 504, the Community Energy Act, and the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to pass this legislation to allow for the creation of community energy programs in Pennsylvania.