



Interreligious Eco-Justice Network
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SB 6928, An Act Concerning Municipal Electric Aggregation Programs

Dear Senator Needleman, Representative Steinberg, Sen Fazio, Representative Marra, Representative Sanchez, Senator Maroney, and esteemed members of the Energy and Technology Committee,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to HB 6926, An Act Concerning Municipal Electric Aggregation Programs.

The Interreligious Eco-Justice Network is a faith-based environmental organization that works with religious communities across Connecticut on environmental issues, such as climate change, toxic pollution, and species loss. Hundreds of congregations have implemented energy efficiency measures in an attempt to reduce their energy costs. Many of them have also continued with additional measures, such as heat pumps and solar. They take these actions not only for practical reasons, but for theological ones as well. Every faith tradition talks about the importance of wise and compassionate stewardship of the planet and its resources. Religious communities across Connecticut are studying their impact on the planet and taking steps to reduce their pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, eliminate harmful chemicals, and develop sustainable practices at their house of worship.

Community Choice Aggregation will be beneficial to any resident or business that struggles with their monthly utility expenses. Currently, CT prevents municipalities forming opt-out Community Choice Aggregation, but Massachusetts, New York, New Hampshire have Community Choice Aggregation and their residents have benefited from lower electricity costs, expanded options for renewable energy, increased battery storage, and increased community participation. Revenues from the sale of electricity by municipalities is the basis for funding energy programs. New Hampshire's program, Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire is an excellent example – in its first

year, CPCNH saved its customers \$14M and was able to put \$10M into a reserve account, which will be used for future projects.

With electricity costs high, Community Choice Aggregation is an excellent alternative for the residents of Connecticut. We urge you to vote to pass HB 6928, An Act Concerning Municipal Aggregation Programs.

Very best regards,

Terri Eickel, Executive Director