



Hello, my name is Bill Wahrer, I am the project coordinator at Dismas House. I am here on behalf of Dismas House and the Worcester Green Low-Income Housing Coalition. Dismas House and Worcester Green members all serve various low-income populations around Central Massachusetts. Collectively, we serve thousands of citizens. Our coalition has a simple purpose, which is to use available green technology to lower our utility bills and reinvest those savings back into our critical services for our given constituents. Solar energy has been a major asset for many of our agencies and more are hoping to follow suit. For example, at one of the properties, solar has cut the electrical usage by 75%, savings thousands. We wanted to be here today to

voice our support for solar and advocate for raising the net metering cap so that we can continue to use solar to benefit some of Massachusetts' most vulnerable citizens.



"There is a direct relationship between humankind and nature. Our Mother Earth is who sustains us. The problem is that we are exploiting and destroying her. The consequence is climate change. We face an emergency without precedent.....I am here to testify that people like me, low-income and historically excluded, are in favor of solar energy.....and I ask that you enact a law to eliminate a cap on net metering and support shared community solar projects." Excerpts from Neighbor to Neighbor member-leader Gloria Ramirez' testimony at the State House Hearing on energy policy on Tuesday. Community shared solar and low-income housing projects are blocked by the net metering cap.