

Dear Pennsylvania Senator:

We are writing on behalf of the members of our organizations to urge you to support Senate Bill 234, legislation enabling Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs for Pennsylvania. This legislation will help usher Pennsylvania in to the 21st century clean energy economy and bring numerous benefits to our citizens. Commercial PACE has broad support from many of Pennsylvania's leading environmental, business and labor organizations.

Commercial PACE is a financing mechanism that enables **low-cost, long-term funding** for energy efficiency retrofits and upgrades, the addition of renewable power sources such as solar panels, and water conservation measures at commercial and industrial properties. Once enabling legislation is passed, local communities may choose to administer a Commercial PACE program. The program is voluntary for all parties involved and can cover 100% of a project's costs. Businesses pay the loans back through their annual property tax bill and there is **no cost to taxpayers**.

Commercial PACE programs can have multiple benefits for the Pennsylvania's residents and businesses including:

- **Creating Jobs:** PACE has created thousands of jobs across the country in states implementing the programs. Local jobs can be created as engineers, skilled laborers, and others complete energy efficiency and clean energy projects on commercial and industrial properties.
- **Saving money:** Businesses and property owners can save money on utility bills and increase the value of their properties. Commercial PACE programs enable municipalities or counties to work with private lenders that provide long-term, low-cost financing to business owners for energy efficiency and clean energy improvements to their properties.
- **Protecting our environment:** Our environment and local communities are made healthier as a result of cleaner air and greater energy efficiency.

SB 234 has strong, bipartisan support in the Pennsylvania Senate, including over 24 cosponsors (see list attached).

Given the benefits for our health, environment, economy, and pocketbooks, we strongly urge you to support SB 234 during this new legislative session, and help Pennsylvania's local governments to establish Commercial PACE projects.

Respectfully,

BlueGreen Alliance

PennFuture

Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

Pennsylvania Solar Energy Industries Association

Solar Unified Network of Western Pennsylvania (SUNWPA)

Green Building Alliance

Nature Abounds

Mid-Atlantic Renewable Energy Association

PennEnvironment

Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2)

Clean Air Council

Delaware Valley Green Building Council

Evangelical Environmental Network

Sierra Club

Moms Clean Air Force

PA Interfaith Power & Light

Sustainable Pittsburgh

Environmental Defense Fund