



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 2762</b>		DATE: <b>2/25/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Utilities</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCAT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 11:47 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**I am in Support of this Bill and Taxation of Solar Farms.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DAVID BUNGE</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>636-474-9067</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>AZIMUTH RENEWABLES</b>		TITLE: <b>PRESIDENT</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>7800 FORSYTH BLVD. SUITE 300B</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63105</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JEREMY LAFAVER</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>816-654-3666</b>
REPRESENTING: <b>CLEAN GRID ALLIANCE</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 12:00 AM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>LARRY GRIESHABER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/23/2026 6:55 PM</b>	
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Solar energy will be a cornerstone of a comprehensive program to provide energy to meet ever-growing energy demands - especially in light of the voracious appetite of AI for energy. HB 2762 will continue a tax framework that will make the development of future solar energy projects economically feasible. Please vote to continue this vital component of solar energy development.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>LAURA STINSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-220-1917</b>
REPRESENTING:		TITLE:
ADDRESS: <b>2015 COUNTY ROAD 284</b>		
CITY: <b>COLUMBIA</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65202</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 12:00 AM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARK FIEGENBAUM</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-690-8580</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI FARM BUREAU</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>701 S COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65102</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MELISSA VATTEROTT</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-727-0600</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MISSOURI COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT</b>		TITLE: <b>DIRECTOR OF POLICY &amp; STRATEGY</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>25 KINGSLAND AVE SUITE 100, ST. LOUIS, MO 63130</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63130</b>
EMAIL: <b>mvatterott@moenvironment.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 11:20 AM</b>	
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February 25, 2026

Chairman Bob Bromley  
 House Utilities Committee  
 MO House of Representatives  
 201 West Capitol Avenue, Room 401-A  
 Jefferson City MO 65101

Dear Chairman Bromley and Members of the Committee,

The Missouri Coalition for the Environment is a statewide, advocacy nonprofit organization that works to empower Missourians to protect their environment and health. HB 2762 sets a fixed tax liability of \$2,500 per megawatt of nameplate capacity for any solar energy projects built or contracted to sell power after August 28, 2026. This policy builds upon Missouri’s previously successful tax framework for solar projects constructed prior to 2022 and provides regulatory clarity for future development. For these reasons, we urge the committee to vote “yes” on HB 2762.

By continuing a predictable and consistent tax structure, HB 2762 reduces financial uncertainty for solar developers and helps make projects more economically viable in the long run. This kind of certainty is essential for encouraging long-term infrastructure investments and ensuring Missouri remains competitive in attracting clean energy development. Increased solar deployment will not only strengthen grid resilience, but also save taxpayers money as it is cheaper, safer, and faster to deploy than any other form of energy available on the market today (1).

Importantly, HB 2762 also creates a 200-foot setback requirement for solar installations. This ensures that solar development does not infringe on neighboring communities, but also does not impose excessive requirements. We are concerned about the Department of Natural Resources' capacity to take on the additional administrative burden of enforcing this provision. There must be adequate budget considerations or alternatives considered for effective enforcement. However, this legislation represents a balanced approach that supports renewable energy growth while respecting community concerns and providing clear expectations for project siting and taxation. We ask the committee to vote “yes” on HB 2762 with proper adjustments for enforcement efficacy. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Melissa Vatterott, JD  
 Director of Policy & Strategy

(1) As Mr. Michels testified in EA-2025-0239 In the Matter of the Application of Union Electric Company

**d/b/a Ameren Missouri for Permission and Approval and Certificates of Convenience and Necessity Authorizing it to Construct Renewable Generation Facilities, August 29, 2025, pp. 11.; Lazard Levelized Cost of Energy+. Lazard Power, Energy and Infrastructure Group, 2025.**  
**<https://www.lazard.com/media/eijnqja3/lazards-lcoeplus-june-2025.pdf>**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>TAMARA R SZABO</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 5:59 AM</b>	
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HB 2762 will make the development of solar projects more fiscally feasible. At a time when energy costs are up three times more than the rest of the economy, we need all the help we can get to control costs. HB 2762 also supports energy independence, energy dominance, and is consistent with an "all of the above approach".



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>TYLER TRAVERS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
REPRESENTING: <b>RENEW MISSOURI</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: <b>MO</b>
EMAIL:		ZIP:
ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 12:00 AM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ABIGAIL HERNDON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 1:55 PM</b>
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This would higher water rates, loss of local control, and the privatization of essential services by allowing the dissolving of public water public district. Politicians write difficult, vague and misleading language in order to get constituents to vote for their private interests, businesses and lobbying groups instead of what's best for the public. This can also tie into data centers and how they will receive and have the public pay for their water usage, instead of the corporation paying it themselves.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCAT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 11:54 PM</b>	
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**I am Opposed to this Bill on many fronts. This Bill is a "Switch-N-Bait" Bill to fool the General Assembly. This Bill Violates Our State Constitution and will be struck down and deemed invalid by Our State Supreme Court. This is bad Legislation in the way that it has been crafted.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>BENITA EMBREE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 11:23 PM</b>	
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**200 feet set back is much too small.  
The tax is too low.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>CHARLES G CRAWFORD</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 11:34 PM</b>

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I am requesting the Chairman and all committee members to be forwarded my testimony, thank you in advance for complying. My name is Charles Greg Crawford. Our family has been farming for four generations, spanning nearly 100 years. Within a 10 mile radius of our family homestead, we have identified more than 10,000 acres proposed for industrial-scale solar power plants. I am in opposition of HB 2762 because in my opinion \$2500 per MW taxation is asking these rural communities and counties to indirectly further subsidize solar by not having to pay a fair tax rate plus the 200 ft setback is unacceptable to neighboring residences and landowners to protect them from watershed, create a fire prevention barrier, help reduce property devaluation, etc.

The economic impact is significant. Research from the 2020 Michigan State University Center for Economic Analysis shows that counties lose approximately \$1 million per year for every 1,000 acres removed from agricultural production. That means Callaway County alone stands to lose roughly \$10 million annually. The loss of farm revenue will be devastating and will result in collateral damage—job losses, closed ag-related businesses, and a cascading decline across other revenue sectors.

The loss of farm revenue is crippling. We don't have to guess what happens when farmland is taken out of production. Just look at the rural communities north of Highway 36 after the Conservation Reserve Program was implemented in 1985. Large amounts of land were removed from production, farm revenue stopped circulating, jobs dried up, and local businesses closed their doors.

All we are asking for is a fair tax so the affected communities are rightfully compensated and will not go backwards and be worse off. We need these tax dollars to train and equip our rural fire departments to be able to respond to emergencies at massive solar facilities, keep our schools solvent and increase teachers' pay, and funding for essential county services.

I don't know of any tax that remains constant plus are neighboring states taxation are more: Wisconsin \$4,000 per MW; Ohio \$7,000 up to \$9,000 per MW; Nebraska \$3,518 per MW; Illinois taxes as commercial business; Indiana has nine projects averaged about 1,100 acres each, so the total addition to assessed value would average about \$66 million. All nine solar projects are in rural areas, where tax rates averaged about \$1.50 per \$100 assessed value. That means the average solar project would pay almost \$1 million dollars a year in added property taxes.

I believe it is fair to cap utility-scale solar at two percent of county cropland, rather than four percent, so it is less likely that no single county loses its agricultural economic engine. I would also consider \$6,000 per megawatt, with an inflation accelerator, to be fair. Even at that level, solar maintains a tax

advantage over every other energy and commercial sector. Personally my residential property tax is \$3950 and it went up this past year by \$393 or 10%. You want private citizens to have accelerators, but not solar corporations. My home is a tiny amount assessed value compared to the cost of the equipment to produce one megawatt and they are paying less taxes than I am, does that make sense? No wonder the tax burden keeps rising and is so heavy on the ordinary citizen.

I'll leave you with this final thought: we are repeatedly told solar is the most cost-effective and efficient energy source, yet it depends heavily on subsidies and preferential tax treatment while paying only a fraction of what other industries pay. Shouldn't everyone compete on a level playing field and let the best business model rise to the top?

Will utility scale solar be our generation of the strip mines to clean up once the subsidies dry up as the country's focus returns to a dependable base load energy sources, such as nuclear

Thank you.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>CURTIS WARFIELD JR</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-220-6407</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>CALLAWAY COUNTY COMMISSION</b>		TITLE: <b>CALLAWAY COUNTY COMMISSIONER</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>10 E FIFTH ST</b>			
CITY: <b>FULTON</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65251</b>
EMAIL: <b>cwarfield@callawaycounty.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 3:52 PM</b>	
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I am the Eastern District Callaway County Commissioner. I believe the setbacks are not near enough, I have constituents tha propose 1,000' but setbacks proposed by Ranger Power are not acceptable of 500 and less for adjoining residents. Now as far as tax monies based on nameplate per mw, \$2,500 is a low ball number from the solar companies. In our own Chpt 100 negotiations are \$3000 as of now and I believe to low, that 100 has not been agreed upon yet. There were some of my constituents in attendance today and were heard. I as of you to help me help them or so on. Thank you. Curt Warfield, Callaway Commission.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>FRED DREILING</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>816-806-6335</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>ASSOCIATION OF WATER DISTRICTS</b>		TITLE: <b>LOBBYIST</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>1025 W 64TH TERR</b>			
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64113</b>
EMAIL: <b>freddreilingllc@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 6:55 AM</b>	
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**Water district vote requirements are fine as is.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>GABE HETTINGER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/20/2026 4:36 PM</b>	
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While I am agreeable to some of the other items in the bill, the setback distance and method is meaningless. The bare minimum setback should be 1500ft. The method of application should be from the nearest OBJECT associated with the solar installation (includes security fences) to the nearest edge of a residential property. Judging distance, referencing my own property which is approximately 900ft long, 1500ft is still very close but is slightly tolerable, especially if a solid, maintained, green screen is in place. I can toss a baseball 200ft with little effort. When these projects can be in hundreds or thousands of acres with panels the size of houses, a distance that can be measured with a handheld measuring tape is hardly effective.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KIM SHIELDS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 7:15 PM</b>	

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I am writing to express my opposition to HB 2762 and to share serious concerns regarding proposed industrial-scale solar development adjacent to my family farm. While I support diversified energy production, projects spanning hundreds or thousands of acres raise significant issues for rural communities and neighboring landowners. Industrial-scale solar development will reduce property values, remove productive farmland from use, increase fire and drainage risks, and fundamentally alter the rural character that our community cherishes.

First, I am concerned about property devaluation. The proximity of an industrial-scale solar facility directly bordering our land will negatively impact resale value and buyer interest. For many families, property represents our largest investment and long-term security. In addition to potential devaluation, small setbacks, visual and noise impacts, and long-term uncertainty about land restoration after decommissioning add to these concerns.

I am also concerned that the proposed 200-foot setback is insufficient. Greater setbacks and vegetative screening would better protect neighboring landowners from visual, noise, and other impacts. Second, I am concerned about drainage and soil erosion. Converting large areas of agricultural land to solar infrastructure can alter natural water flow, potentially increasing runoff, soil erosion, and flooding risks to adjoining properties. Currently, Ranger Power Solar Company is removing topsoil that has taken over 1,000 years to develop, along with brush rows that serve as essential conservation tools. These brush rows provide wind protection, erosion control, wildlife habitat, and crop protection—benefits that are lost when cleared for solar panels.

Third, there are fire safety concerns, given the amount of electrical equipment and the accumulation of dry vegetation beneath panels. I urge careful consideration of fire prevention measures and emergency response planning.

Finally, the \$2,500 per megawatt tax is far lower than in other states, raising questions about whether local counties and schools will receive adequate compensation for such large-scale industrial projects.

Mega-solar farms represents a major change in land use—from agricultural to industrial scale—which directly affects neighboring landowners who did not choose to participate. I respectfully ask that decision-makers carefully consider stronger setback requirements, fair taxation comparable to other states and meaningful protections for adjoining landowners.

**Thank you for your time and consideration.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>LISA PANNETT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
REPRESENTING: <b>ARMORINE</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 12:00 AM</b>
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARY ROSELEE HOGAN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 5:04 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

My name is Roselee Hogan and I live in Callaway County. I have met many people who either have become involved with the commercial wind or solar industry or have friends, relatives or neighbors who have become involved with these industries and who now regret what has happened. I am writing this in opposition to HB 2762 as it is currently written. Although there are provisions in the bill which I consider to be good, nevertheless, there are area I have noticed which are concerning to me.

In 137.123. the tax liability is set at \$2500 per megawatt of nameplate capacity. I did a little checking on the Internet and found that other states assessment is higher. I believe Connecticut now has had a tax of \$10,000 per megawatt of nameplate capacity. I believe Missouri’s rate should be much higher than \$2500.

In 393.1120. the set back from the nearest occupied property is only 200 feet. This is extremely inadequate. With solar panels being partially made of glass, a short, but powerful wind could shatter the glass and the glass or other parts from the solar panel could be blown onto neighboring property. Even if the materials are not blown onto neighboring ground, it still leaves an eye sore and a danger for any person or animal that might stray onto it. After all, most rural areas do not have leash laws.

I also noticed references to “Chapter 100” projects which exempt Chapter 100 projects from the regulations of the bill, even from ones like the 200-foot set back which are already woefully inadequate.

137.016. Lines 67 and 68  
 except that the provisions shall not apply to agreements authorized under chapter 100

137.124. Lines 9 and 10  
 Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to 10 agreements authorized under chapter 100.

137.124. Lines 124 and 125  
 Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to apply to agreements authorized under chapter 100.

153.034. Lines 49 and 50  
 Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to apply to agreements 50 authorized under chapter 100

393.1120. Lines 18 and 19  
 3. Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to agreements authorized under chapter 100

**I do not consider this bill to be ready for passage.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>NOEL TORPEY</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>816-674-8444</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>TENASKA</b>		TITLE: <b>PRINCIPAL</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>217 EAST CAPITOL AVE</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL: <b>ntorpey@hbstrategies.us</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/21/2026 7:54 AM</b>	
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ROBERT MARTIN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/15/2026 11:04 PM</b>	
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Please share this testimony with the committee.

Solar and wind projects should NOT be granted chapter 100 privileges in the state of Missouri period!. And the taxes they pay should be based on at least \$4000-\$6000 per MW nameplate rating just like a lot of other states are getting. This will hopefully offset the lost revenues that the counties will see from that land not being used for row crops or other agriculture purposes. They should be paying taxes just like any other company involved with the generation and distribution of electricity in our state. Also, setbacks in this bill are way too small. They should be at minimum of 1000' from homes, churches, schools, public buildings of gather, and roadways. The hazards and environmental impacts associated with these projects and finished product are way more than people understand.

Thank you



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ROBERT MARTIN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/23/2026 7:06 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Please forward this to committee members.

I submitted a testimony about 2 weeks ago in opposition to this bill but didn't know if it was still good so here is another.

Taxation of industrial solar needs to be more than \$2500/MW. They need to pay their fair share especially since this will be taking agricultural taxes away from the state and counties. In other states, they pay between \$4000-\$6000/MW. Setbacks are way too small also. These solar facilities are Power Plants! Any other power plants especially the reliable ones, are not build next to homes, churches, schools, and places of gather so why should an industrial scale solar facility be allowed to be 200 feet from these buildings. Fire hazards, property devaluation, and just plain noise nuisance from inverters will ruin the quality of life for anyone that lives close to them. People live in rural America to get away from industrial noises and hazards. Why allow this garbage to be forced upon these residents.

Thank you



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SARAH BERRY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/13/2026 12:05 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**HB 2762 — Opposition (Batman voice)**

Chair, members of the committee—

I work in the dark so the rules hold in the light. This bill doesn't strengthen order.

It hard-codes special treatment, shifts costs, and expands leverage over landowners and local tax bases under the banner of "utilities."

1) Preferential tax treatment for solar creates constitutional and uniformity risk.

HB 2762 appears to create a flat tax liability for certain solar projects (e.g., "\$2,500 per megawatt of nameplate capacity") and reclassifies associated land as commercial in specified circumstances. That is not a neutral valuation rule—it is a legislated carve-out that risks non-uniform taxation and unequal treatment of similarly situated property owners and industries.

2) The setback mandate is a statewide land-use override disguised as "utilities."

The bill imposes a statewide solar setback (200 feet from occupied dwellings/churches/schools), with a waiver mechanism and a "local zoning supersedes, but not more restrictive" ceiling. That is not local control; it's a state-imposed cap on county standards, limiting communities that may need stricter buffers for geography, density, or safety.

3) Wind lighting mandate + daily fines: punitive, brittle, and invites due process challenges.

Requiring FAA application and installation timelines, then imposing \$5,000/day per turbine for delays, creates strict-liability exposure that may turn on federal timelines and vendor performance—factors not fully within the operator's control. That's how you manufacture litigation.

4) Eminent domain: the bill says "no" with one hand and "yes" with the other.

It restricts condemnation for wind/solar generating facilities, but then expressly extends condemnation for collection lines, transmission, substations, and related facilities needed to deliver energy to the grid. In practice, that can still place landowners in the crosshairs—only now the fight shifts to what is "needed" and what is "collection" versus "generation." That ambiguity is where property rights go to

die.

**5) Water district dissolution threshold change is destabilizing.**

**Reducing the approval threshold from two-thirds to four-sevenths materially changes the governance stability of public water supply districts. That affects bondholders, ratepayers, long-term infrastructure planning, and can trigger contract and reliance concerns.**

**Bottom line: HB 2762 is not a clean utilities bill. It is a bundle of tax classification changes, land-use limits, penalty regimes, and condemnation rules that will predictably generate disputes among landowners, local governments, utilities, and courts.**

**Legislative Notice:**

**The General Assembly is placed on notice that HB 2762's targeted valuation/tax-liability scheme for solar projects, statewide setback ceiling, strict daily penalty structure tied to federal approval timelines, and condemnation language for associated transmission/collection infrastructure present foreseeable risks of constitutional challenge (including uniformity/equal protection and due process), statutory ambiguity disputes, and increased takings/condemnation litigation. These risks are inherent in the bill's structure and should be evaluated and narrowed through clear definitions, neutral valuation principles, and enforceable standards that do not hinge on third-party or federal timing outside regulated parties' control.**

**Batman would expect nothing different from a bowtie—especially in an appropriations building.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>TIMOTHY C. EMBREE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 11:28 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**The setback should be more than 200 feet.  
They should be taxed at a higher rate.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>TRENT WATSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-606-0141</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>112 E. HIGH STREET</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL: <b>Trent@trentwatson.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 3:07 AM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**  
In opposition on section 247 dealing with the dissolution of a water district.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>CATHERINE VOGELWEID</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 8:52 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		
<b>PLEASE DISTRIBUTE COPIES OF MY TESTIMONY TO ALL UTILITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>		

**Comments on Set-Back Distances from Non-leasing Landowners Residences and Property Lines**

I have reviewed the NREL Database of Local Ordinances for Siting Wind and Solar Energy Projects, which published the set-back distances for all counties and states as of 2022. There is no uniform set-back distance for solar operations. So how should Missouri’s legislators decide what distance is correct?

What do you expect the set-back to achieve? When a solar operation occupies hundreds or thousands of acres, how does this change the hazard exposure risks to nearby residents? Examination of solar industry insurance claims identifies fire as a primary hazard, and explosion with toxic chemical release is also likely if battery storage is also present on the solar operation site.

CalFire and FEMA have extensive experience with the ignition, spread and control of grassland and wildland fires. To prevent fire spread, these sources recommend a buffer zone of at least 300 feet for grasslands and a distance that is 10 times the height of the trees growing in the area (when trees are present). In Missouri, Oak, Hickory and Cottonwood trees reach a height of 100 feet when fully grown and these trees are present on both leased land and adjacent parcels throughout Missouri. The safe set-back distance for solar operations in Missouri is 1,000 feet.

**Comments on \$2500/MW Taxation Rate**

This rate is excessively low. Solar electricity is a costly and poor choice for electricity generation for Missourians. Alex Epstein has a thorough understanding of how renewable solar energy will impact utility rates. His ideas are summarized below.

You have no doubt heard many times that solar is a great choice for electricity generation because the LCOE (levelized cost of electricity) is low. However, the LCOE is the wrong benchmark because it omits the full system cost, including life support cost. The full life-support cost of solar includes the dispatchable power plants that accommodate solar’s unreliability, the costs of high-density long-distance transmission lines and various grid-stabilizing expenses. Solar’s life-support costs are huge, making solar a very expensive source of electricity.

You have also heard the claim that intermittent solar and wind are cost-competitive with reliable

**sources of electricity. This is an accounting fraud. The cost of solar is paid on top of the cost of an on-demand power source, not instead of it, because solar can't be relied on to produce 24/7/365 electricity. It is not "cheap" to power the grid with unreliable sources, like solar.**

**Advocates of solar and wind replacing fossil fuel power downplay the obvious, glaring problem that the grid requires electricity on-demand and that weather-determined, intermittent solar can provide nothing resembling that.**

**We commonly hear about the impressive "capacity" growth of wind and solar. However, this is a perversion of the proper meaning of "capacity." For traditional, reliable power plants—nuclear, coal, gas, oil—"capacity" is the amount of electricity it can generate on-demand, when needed. For solar, "capacity" is the maximum potential electricity it can generate when there are perfect weather conditions. In real-world conditions, solar's "capacity" is an illusion. And because solar can underperform for prolonged periods, it also can't provide a reliable surplus to charge the batteries that can allegedly make it reliable!**

**If solar is not a replacement for fossil fuel power, what is it? It is merely saving fuel for reliable power sources. Solar should not be referred to as "capacity" or even "power", but rather as what it really is: at best, an intermittent fuel-saver (that is usually a big waste of money).**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>CHERI MEADOWS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 10:59 PM</b>	

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**200 ft setbacks?? That isn't nearly far enough to protect adjoining landowners from glare, runoff, smoke (in case of fire), or noise. This is an industrial power plant and safety to surrounding residences should be given priority, as these leases are for decades and once built, these facilities cannot be readily moved, nor can the residences.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>CODY R. HOLT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>CRAIG ROSS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 4:09 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

The \$2500 MW tax is to low, not in line with other states, strongly opposed to the 200 foot setbacks, I thought we were putting in 1000 foot setbacks. I am very concerned about fire danger, water erosion dangers, heat effect danger on crops our homes, our livestock. I have spoke to a biologist about the effect on the migratory game birds, I am very concerned about the dangers to 100s of thousands of geese and ducks. The development of the ranger power/beavertail solar project in Davis and Walker township in Henry County Mo. is being built on land where we raise food. They are destroying families and communities. My name is Craig Ross, my Father Paul Ross, my Grandfather ON Ross represent a third generation farm and I will speak for all of us, This Is Shameful.

Regards



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>GEORGIA ROSS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 10:17 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

My name is Georgia Ross I am 86 years old. I am concerned for my community. My husband, a second generation farmer/rancher and I have been married for 65 years. We bought our first farm in 1963, a mile and a half from where Paul, my husband was raised. Over the years we have continued to grow the operation.

I am ashamed of my state and local governments. Allowing these large scale industrial projects to move in and accept weak tax tax rates, poor planning, a complete disregard for the care of our hard work. I do not support this bill, you can do better. Please consider protecting what my husband and I and the agriculture community in this state have for our entire life.

God Bless



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JOHN R. BURNS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 12:07 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

My name is John Burns, Callaway County. I live on a century farm owned by my wife's family for over 130 years. I have lived in the original house for 54 years of my life. We are facing 2,400 acres of commercial solar on two sides of the property.

While I support some parts of this bills, the \$2,500 MW taxation is ridiculous given that solar developer are currently offering between \$3,00 and \$3,500 in PILTS. This is below even what they believe to be fair. Given that they are making \$50,,000 per acre in federal subsidies, they can well afford to help the poor counties they are victimizing.

The setback of 200 feet from homes, schools and churches is equally ridiculous. Many developers already set back 300 feet so again, this bill seems to be written for just their pocketbook and no consideration is given to the citizens whose property is threatened by fire, water containing harmful chemicals running onto their land and into their wells and ponds, and the heat effect proven to show a raise of 20 degrees in the hot weather which will burn our crops. I have attached two articles to my testimony that I request be distributed to all committee members supporting these claims.

I see no problem with the bill that addresses wind and water issues and indeed believe these are good pieces of legislation. But since you have already heard two solar bills (and there are two more awaiting referral), I recommend striking the solar issues from this bill and just dealing with the other two issues.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JONATHAN DOLAN</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-540-4400</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MISSOURI SOLAR ENERGY INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION (MOSEIA)</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>259 MADELINES PARK CIRCLE</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65109</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARK C. TAYLOR</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 12:00 AM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SUSAN BURNS</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-310-4655</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MID MO LANDOWNERS ALLIANCE LLC</b>		TITLE: <b>LEADERSHIP TEM</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>1948 STATE ROAD PP</b>			
CITY: <b>AUXVASSE</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ZACH MONROE</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-508-2467</b>
REPRESENTING: <b>AMEREN MISSOURI</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS: <b>101 MADISON</b>		
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2026 12:00 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		