

General Law Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-6052

AN ACT CONCERNING THE HOME SOLICITATION SALES ACT AND

Title: RESIDENTIAL SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS.

Vote Date: 3/21/2025

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/12/2025

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

General Law Committee
Rep. Liz Linehan, 103rd District

REASONS FOR BILL:

Representative Liz Linehan introduced Proposed House Bill 6052 to provide consumer protections regarding door-to-door sales. She submitted [detailed written testimony](#) outlining why the bill is needed. It was determined that concerns raised to the General Law Committee regarding solar sales were germane to the proposed bill, so various solar sales protections were added, as well.

The bill requires the Department of Consumer Protection to create a "Do Not Knock" list that can be compared to "Do Not Call" lists used in telemarketing. It requires solicitors to make certain disclosures regarding what they are selling, adds requirements regarding solar systems, and increases penalties for violating the proposed provisions. Solicitors would be required to register ten days before engaging in door-to-door sales, and people convicted of certain "disqualifying offenses" would not be allowed to solicit. Overall, the intent of the legislation is to provide Connecticut residents with greater protections from door-to-door scams and potential break-ins.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

[Bryan Cafferelli, Commissioner, Department of Consumer Protection \(DCP\)](#) submitted comments on HB 6052. He notes that DCP appreciates the bill's intent and states that the department would require "significant additional resources." DCP also requests clarity on Section 2 regarding whether they will need to perform background checks of home solicitors. If they are, then they will need additional resources and authority.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Representative Liz Linehan, 103rd District supports HB 6052 and introduced the legislation to protect homeowners in her district and throughout Connecticut. She refers to the initial concept as a "Do Not Knock" bill that intends to safeguard residents from door-to-door scams and break-ins. Rep. Linehan cites statistics highlighting the prevalence of imposter scams in Connecticut and examples of scam warnings issued by state and local governments. After highlighting the content of the Do Not Knock portion of the bill, Rep. Linehan suggests that the final language allow local municipalities to enforce the provisions with a fine. She would also like it to be made clear that the language applies to all home solicitation companies, not just solar sales.

Requesting amendments: **Valessa Kline, Northeast Regional Director, Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA)** supports the intent of HB 6052 and requests seven amendments:

- (1) SEIA requests that the language be clarified in terms of which sections apply to cold-knocking and which apply to "situations where a consumer proactively invites the salesperson to the home.
- (2) Instead of requiring each contractor to develop a brochure informing consumers about solar systems, SEIA suggests that DCP and other stakeholders develop a consistent guide.
- (3) While they support Section 3's goal of providing more transparency regarding who may sell door-to-door, they suggest that it may conflict with existing local requirements.
- (4) SEIA reads Section 4(d) as requiring contractors to send DCP a lengthy list of all employees of lenders, manufacturers, training providers, and other firms that work with a contractor. They believe that the intent of this section is that contractors provide the names of businesses who provide services on their behalf.
- (5) They suggest that the requirements referencing "ten seconds" be replaced with "promptly."
- (6) SEIA supports the state creating a "no-knock list." If Connecticut does do this, then SEIA requests that there be clear guidelines regarding when names are added. The list should be freely available on the DCP website, and it should be clear that it applies only to uninvited door-to-door sales.
- (7) They suggest lowering the fine to \$500 so that it aligns with other sections of the Home Solicitation Sales Act.

Supports only with amendments: **Chelsea Farrell, Legislative and Policy Associate, Trinity Solar** testified in support of HB 6052 with the following amendments/revisions:

- (1) They request that the "no solicitation" list be updated as frequently as solar companies are required to review it, and they request that an appeal process be included related to proposed penalties.
- (2) Trinity Solar comments that they would like clarification regarding the ten-day requirement so that they can ensure compliance.
- (3) They echo SEIA's suggestion that DCP develop a standardized solar brochure.
- (4) Trinity Solar would like the opportunity to engage with customers between 7 and 8 PM, as that is when they have found them most likely to be home.
- (5) Trinity Solar would like the "ten-second" language replaced with "promptly."

(6) They also request that fines be revised, noting the challenge of compliance.

Supports if amended: [Kyle Wallace, VP Public Policy and Government Affairs, PosiGen](#) generally supports HB 6052's intent to improve regulation of door-to-door sales in Connecticut. If the Committee makes the following amendments, then PosiGen can fully support the bill:

- (1) PosiGen joins other sellers in suggesting that DCP develop the standardized solar brochure.
- (2) They request clarification regarding which business relationships need to be reported to DCP. Currently, it seems that many relationships would need to be reported, and they think that requirement would be burdensome.
- (3) Because they think municipal notifications would be burdensome and difficult to comply with, PosiGen requests their removal or modification.
- (4) They suggest lengthening the solicitation hours, especially in the months with more daylight.
- (5) PosiGen argues that the fine be lowered to \$500 so it matches other sections of the Home Solicitation Sales Act.

Twenty-eight individuals also submitted testimony in support of this bill, primarily relaying personal stories pertinent to the proposed legislation.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

[Michael Trahan, Executive Director, Connecticut Solar and Storage Association \(CONNSSA\)](#) does not support HB 6052. He notes that solar installers have been left out of discussions regarding HB 6052 and three prior bills attempting to regulate home solar sales. They think that policy should not single out the solar industry and should apply to all home construction sales. CONNSSA cites a long list of entities that already regulate home solar door to door sales, explains various consumer protections already in place in their industry, and notes that most municipalities have local ordinances regarding home solicitation.

Two individuals submitted testimony expressing opposition to HB 6052 for personal reasons largely unrelated to the content of the bill.

Reported by: Betsy Francolino

Date: March 24, 2025