



**ENERGY AND RESOURCES GROUP**

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Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

As Professor and Director of the Renewable and Appropriate Energy Laboratory at the University of California, Berkeley, I'm writing to express my strong support of SB 1652 (Murray), the Solar Homes bill. Building more energy efficient solar homes, on the scale called for in this bill, is not only possible but it is tremendously beneficial to California's economy, energy system, environment, and to the building industry.

As you will see in our recently release report on renewable energy and jobs (enclosed, and for online commentaries, see <http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~rael/outreach.html>), an investment in the clean energy industry will likely have dramatic payback in the creation of high-quality jobs for the state that makes this industry a priority.

While I understand there may be debate over this bill, the Assembly Housing Committee rightly approved this bill by a vote of 5 to 2, and I believe that minimum standards, such as those called for in SB 1652, are necessary to accelerate such an important market and make this product available to the public. California boasts some of the most energy efficient buildings in the country brought about by the state mandated Title 24 building codes. This bill will put solar on that same path. Critically for the state, this self-generation is the *best* defense against the sort of price gouging we saw during the energy crisis of 2001. The fact that this bill both installs solar at least cost, and puts California in the driver-seat with respect to developing and encouraging solar industries to locate here is a tremendous second benefit of the bill.

By establishing a minimum standard of new buildings with solar generation in 2006 and then ramping that up over time, SB 1652 builds upon California's history of leading the nation in energy efficient construction.

Homebuilders and California stand to gain significantly from this legislation. I urge you to support this bill, and if I can be of additional help in getting this approved, please do feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Professor Daniel M. Kammen