

## Connecticut Building Officials Association

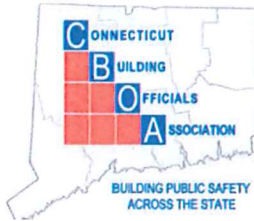
Randy Heckman, President

Rich McKinnon, Vice President

Joseph Cassidy, Second Vice President

Rich McKinnon, Treasurer

Lou Coppola, Secretary



February 24, 2026

Energy and Technology Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 3900  
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: HB 05036 - AN ACT STREAMLINING RESIDENTIAL SOLAR PERMITTING AND ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE.

Chairman Needleman, Chairman Steinberg and Members of the Committee,

My name is Randy Heckman, I am the Building Official for the Town of Coventry and the president of the Connecticut Building Officials' Association. The CBOA is a statewide organization of building officials and other associated professionals from across the state. There are currently about 160 members in the organization. **The Connecticut Building Officials Association opposes section 1 of this proposed legislation.**

Section 1 requires DAS to implement an internet-based software program to automate the review and approval of residential solar building permit applications or for a municipality to adopt and administer an alternate similar to the DAS program.

We are not sure what problem this proposal is meant to solve. Most municipalities, when provided with a complete and accurate application package, will process a permit in well under the statutory 30-day time frame. Delays generally come when incomplete and/or inaccurate packages are submitted. This proposal will not address those delays. If there are ongoing problems with specific jurisdictions processing applications in a timely manner, they should be addressed directly rather than adding another process that may or may not address these specific problems.

Why should this specific class of permit applications be given preference over all other applications submitted to a municipal building official? A homeowner seeking to have a PV system installed pays the same property taxes as a homeowner seeking to add a deck or remodel their kitchen. It seems the applications by other homeowners (taxpayers) are being given second class status to the PV homeowner's application with this process.