**Do you agree that solar power generation should be installed and operated safely?**

Please consider signing a petition to allow a second solar amendment onto the 2016 ballot.

Large, mostly out-of-state solar providers are pushing an amendment to Florida’s Constitution that would promote solar energy by exempting solar generation and related facilities from “reasonable health, safety and welfare regulations.” This is dangerous to the safety and welfare of all Floridians.

While solar power generally is cleaner than other generation options, the electricity generated by solar is just as dangerous as any other electricity and, if unregulated, can be hazardous to our co-op line personnel, fire fighters, electricians and the general public. The initial solar petition is primarily funded by a front group based in Tennessee that refuses to disclose its sources of money. We believe they will gather enough signatures to make the ballot, as they appear to have unlimited finances to pay signature gatherers.

However, there is another option. A second proposed amendment, “Rights of Electricity Consumers Regarding Solar Energy Choice”, would promote solar by allowing consumers to lease solar facilities from a 3rd party. Leasing lets consumers avoid the upfront cost of the facilities and the responsibility of maintaining the equipment. In addition, this amendment expressly allows reasonable safety regulations and consumer protections so that the public, first responders, electricians, and co-op employees won’t be injured or killed by unregulated solar electric generators.

By signing the “Rights of Electricity Consumers Regarding Solar Energy Choice” petition you are not committing to vote for the amendment, but you are allowing voters to consider a more reasonable approach to promoting solar electricity in Florida. The petition is available at the following link: <http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/64817-1.pdf>