

My name is Barbara NeSmith. My husband and I moved with our family to Olathe in October 1992. We have raised our family here and have enjoyed the area. We have felt that KS provides a great place to live and is forward thinking on matters of importance while remaining fiscally responsible.

We are concerned about the rising costs of utilities especially electricity. With the current push in Congress for green energy, solar panels can help provide an offset to other forms of generation of electricity. We have been watching what is happening with electric rates in MO and know that is coming to KS. The multi-levels of rates for usage during time periods is going to catch many people in MO unawares since it was implemented in October and they will not have gone through the peak usage time. We want to put solar panels on our roof to help offset the costs especially during the summer months. Currently, our HOA Restrictions prohibit solar panels on the house or in the yard. Currently, the HOA is rewriting the rules in committee but does not anticipate having anything ready for the homeowners to vote on until the middle of 2025. We feel that is unreasonably long and there is no guarantee we will have the right to solar access in these revisions. If the state of KS passes legislation guaranteeing our right to solar access, then the HOA cannot prohibit us putting up solar panels.

We do want to maintain the appearance of our home and would not want to cover the house in solar panels, put up haphazard placement of the panels or put them in the yard. We fully support panels not being placed on the front door side of the house which generally faces the street. However, there are streets which allow views of all sides of our home so the vague declaration that the panels cannot be visible from the street would prevent any installation of solar panels.

Thank you for allowing me to state my opinions on this bill.

Respectfully,

Barbara NeSmith